

PRODIGY

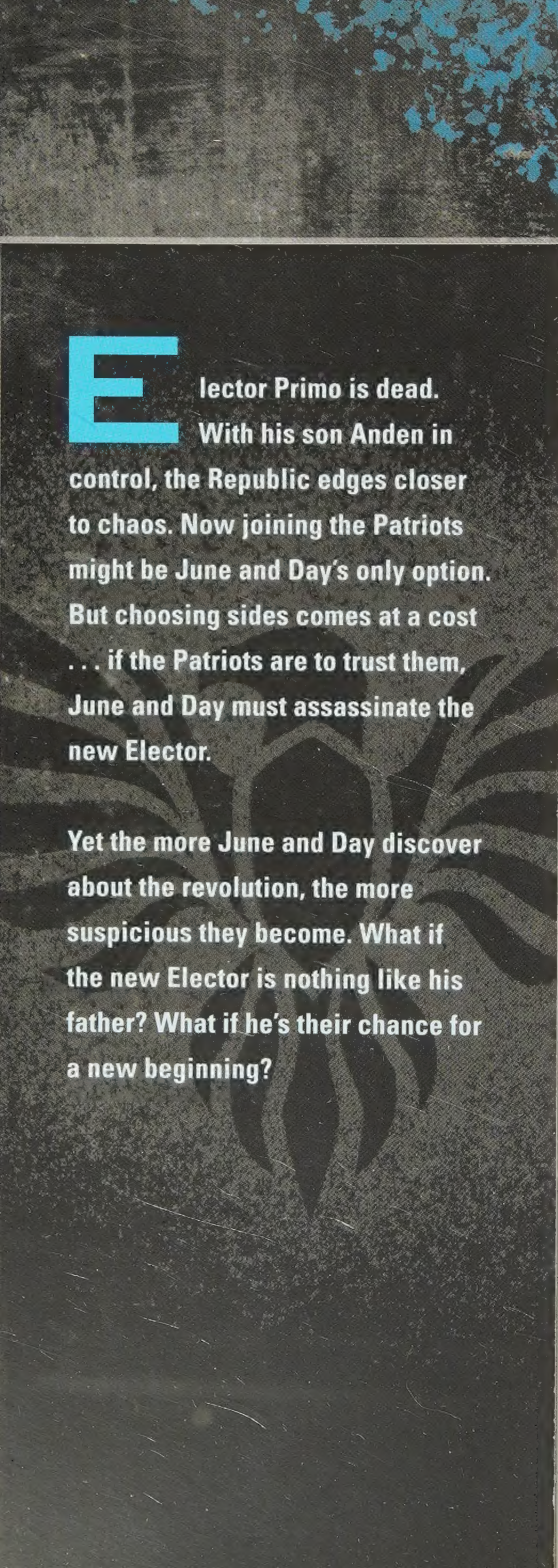
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



BASED ON THE BESTSELLING TRILOGY BY

MARIE LU

ADAPTED BY LEIGH DRAGON • ILLUSTRATED BY KAARI



Elector Primo is dead.
With his son Anden in control, the Republic edges closer to chaos. Now joining the Patriots might be June and Day's only option. But choosing sides comes at a cost ... if the Patriots are to trust them, June and Day must assassinate the new Elector.

Yet the more June and Day discover about the revolution, the more suspicious they become. What if the new Elector is nothing like his father? What if he's their chance for a new beginning?

PRODIGY

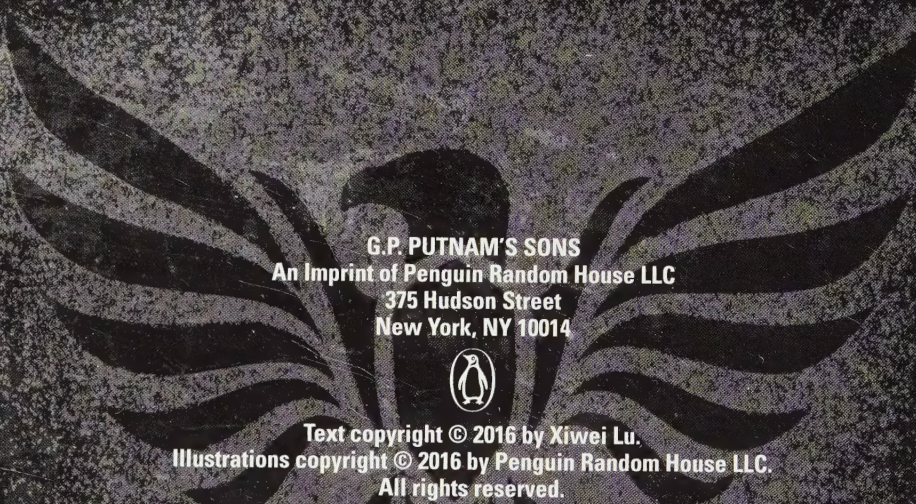
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



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M A R I E L U

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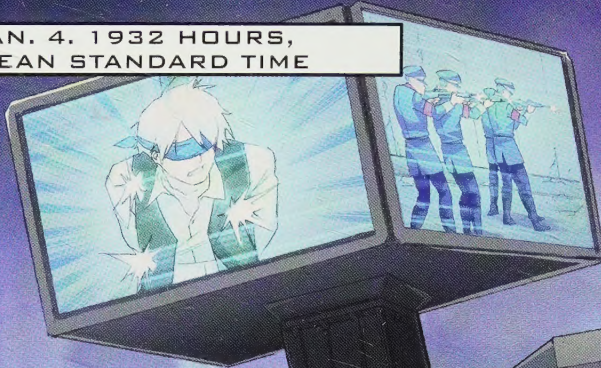
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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
REPUBLIC OF AMERICA
POPULATION 7,427,431



JAN. 4. 1932 HOURS,
OCEAN STANDARD TIME



MISSING

JUNE IPARIS

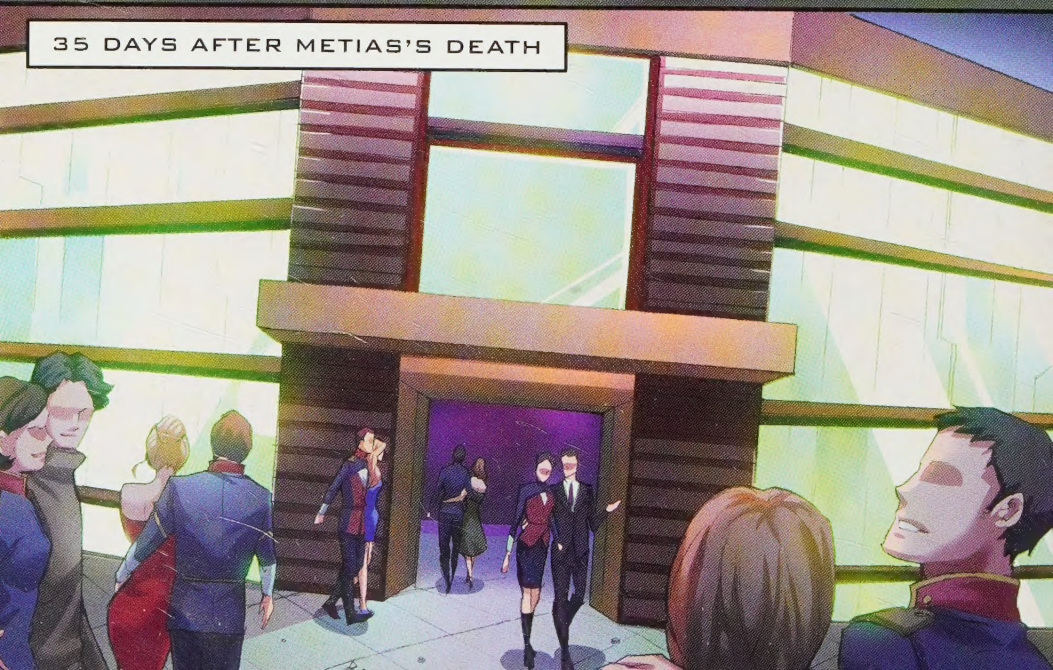
AGENT, LOS ANGELES CITY PATROL

LAST SEEN NEAR BATALLA HALL,
LOS ANGELES, CA

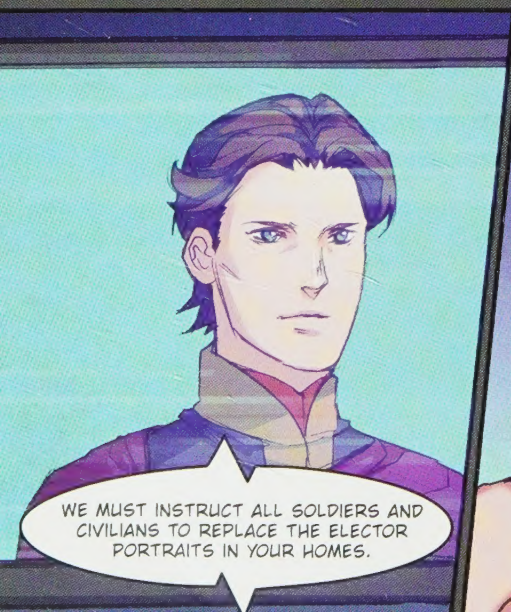
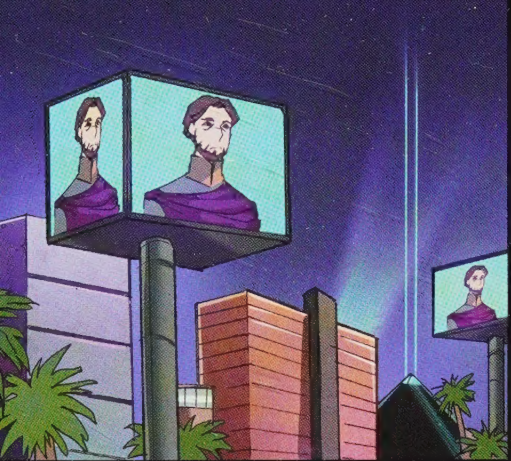
350,000 REPUBLIC NOTES REWARD



35 DAYS AFTER METIAS'S DEATH









THE ELECTOR
MUST'VE DIED.

YEAH. AND THE
REPUBLIC PRETENDS
IT NEVER HAPPENED
AND JUST SKIPS
AHEAD TO THE NEXT
ELECTOR.



HEY! HEY,
YOU TWO!
WAIT UP!

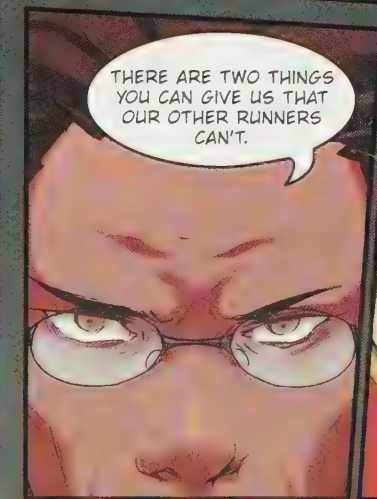


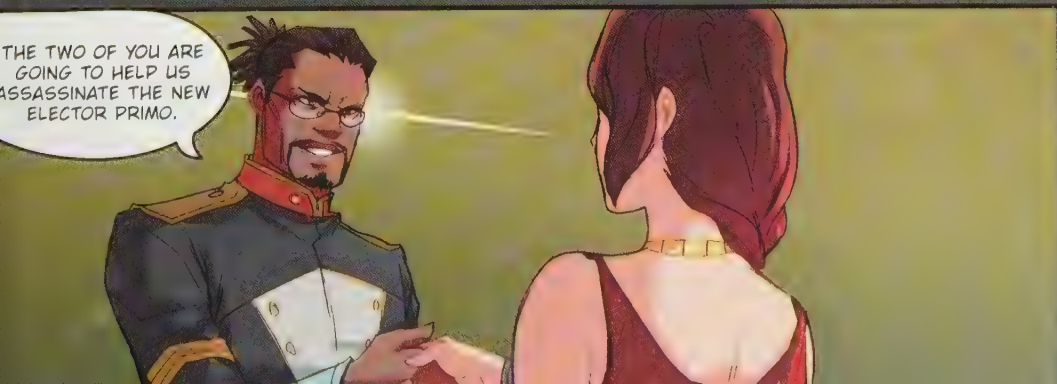
WELL.

I THOUGHT THAT
WAS YOU.











DONE.



WELCOME TO THE PATRIOTS, MY YOUNG FRIENDS. WE'RE GLAD TO HAVE YOU.

MY OFFICIAL TITLE IS COMMANDER ANDREW DESOTO, AND I RUN THREE OF THE CAPITAL'S CITY PATROLS. I'VE BEEN ORGANIZING PATRIOT MISSIONS FOR A LITTLE OVER A DECADE.



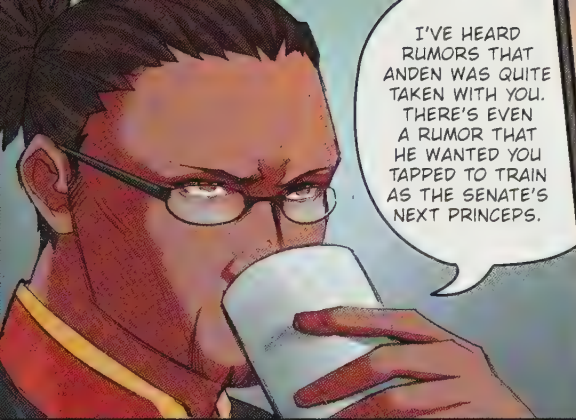
TESS, PUT OUT AN EMERGENCY CALL FOR A MEDIC. I WANT SOMEONE TO TAKE A LOOK AT DAY'S LEG. YOU'VE GOT A NOTICEABLE LIMP THERE, AND PATRIOT RUNNERS NEED TO BE IN TOP PHYSICAL CONDITION.



MS. IPARIS, YOU'VE MET OUR NEW ELECTOR BEFORE, CORRECT? HE KISSED YOUR HAND?



ONCE, AT AN AWARDS CEREMONY. IT REALLY WASN'T A BIG DEAL.



I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT ANDEN WAS QUITE TAKEN WITH YOU. THERE'S EVEN A RUMOR THAT HE WANTED YOU TAPPED TO TRAIN AS THE SENATE'S NEXT PRINCEPS.



WHAT'S A PRINCEPS? SOME OF US AREN'T VERSED IN THE REPUBLIC'S HIERARCHY.



THE LEADER OF THE SENATE. THE ELECTOR'S SHADOW. HIS, OR HER, PARTNER IN COMMAND—AND SOMETIMES MORE. ANDEN'S MOTHER WAS THE LAST PRINCEPS, AFTER ALL.



THOSE RUMORS ARE EXAGGERATED, AND EVEN IF THEY WEREN'T, I'D STILL BE ONE OF SEVERAL PRINCEPS-IN-TRAINING.



YOU'RE BLUSHING, IPARIS. DO YOU LIKE THE IDEA THAT ANDEN'S CRUSHIN' ON YOU?

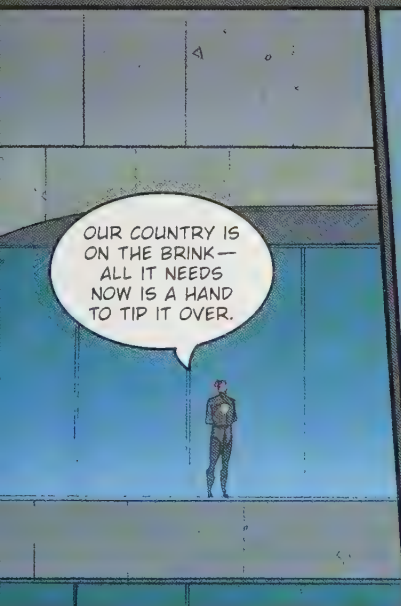


NO.





THE WORLD OUTSIDE THE
REPUBLIC ISN'T PERFECT,
BUT FREEDOMS AND
OPPORTUNITIES DO EXIST
OUT THERE.



OUR COUNTRY IS
ON THE BRINK—
ALL IT NEEDS
NOW IS A HAND
TO TIP IT OVER.



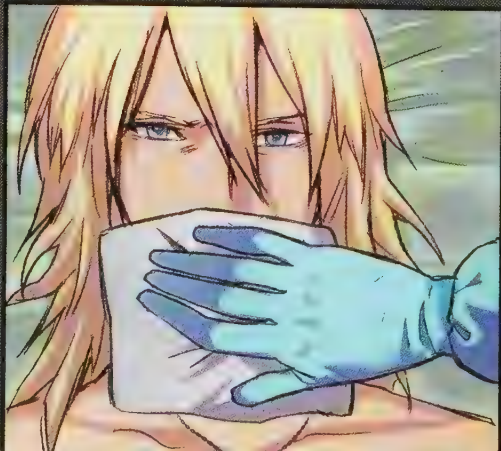
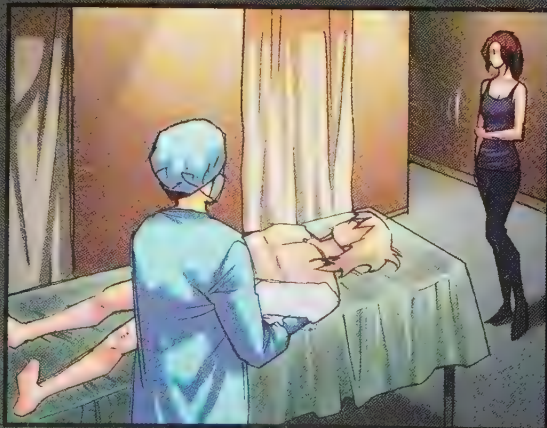
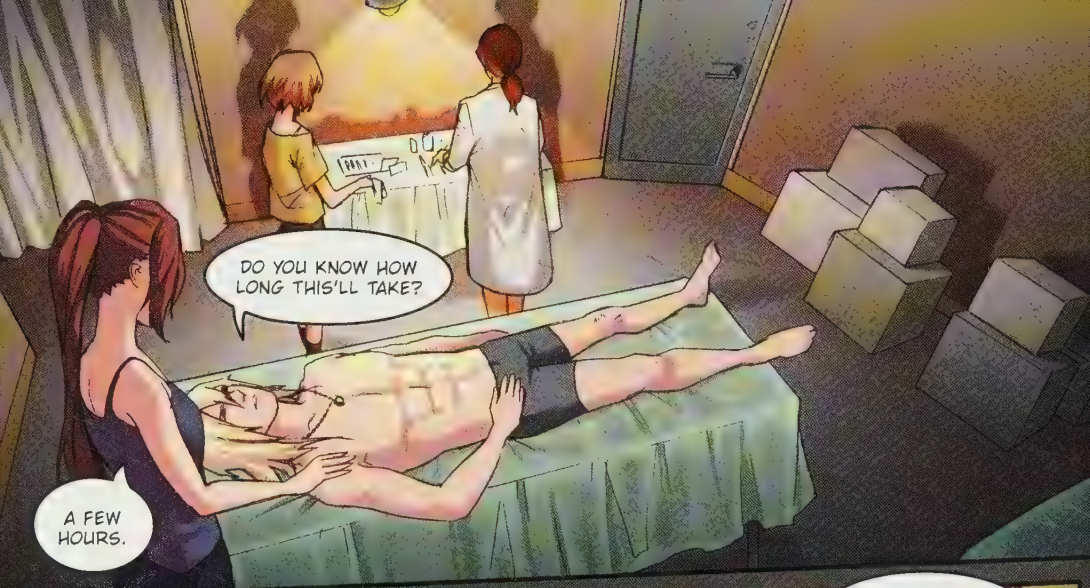
WE CAN BE THAT HAND.
WE CAN MAKE IT INTO THE
UNITED STATES AGAIN.
PEOPLE WILL LIVE FREELY,
AND EDEN WILL GROW UP
IN A BETTER PLACE.

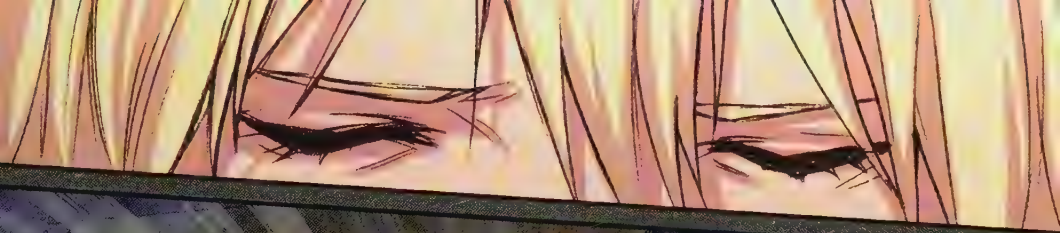
THAT'S WORTH
DYING FOR, ISN'T
IT?

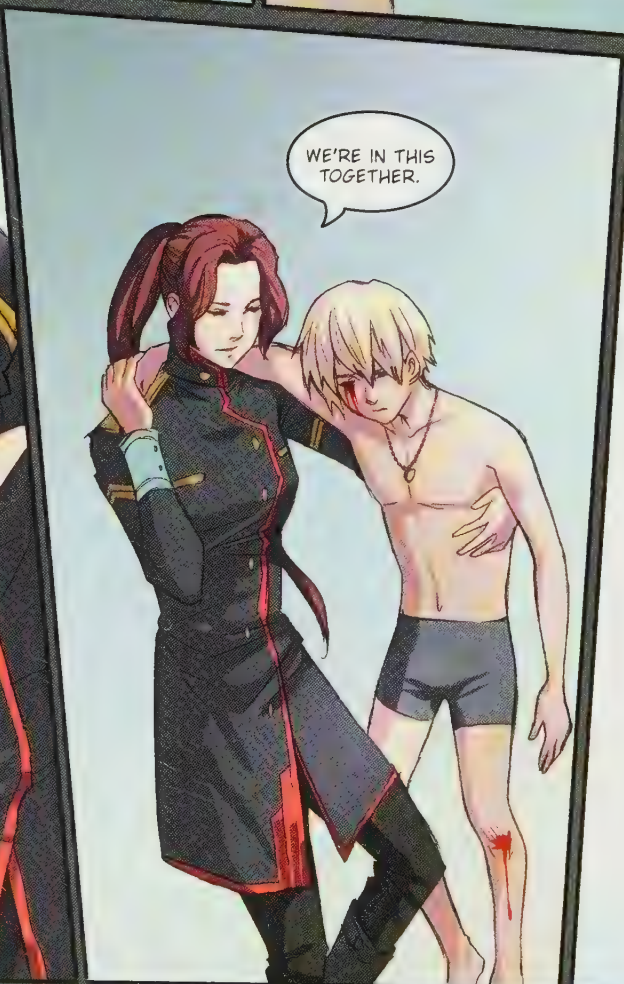


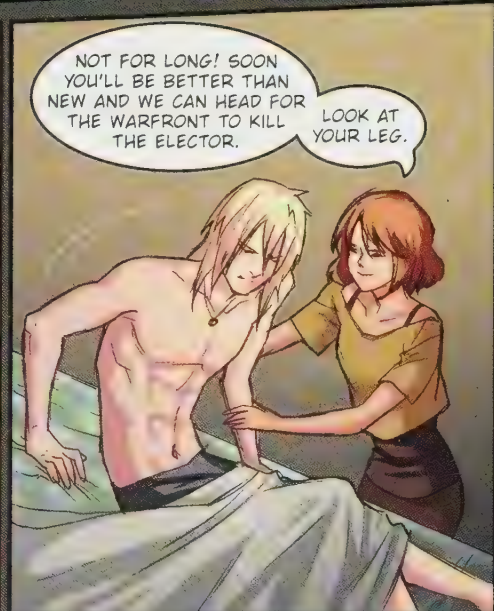
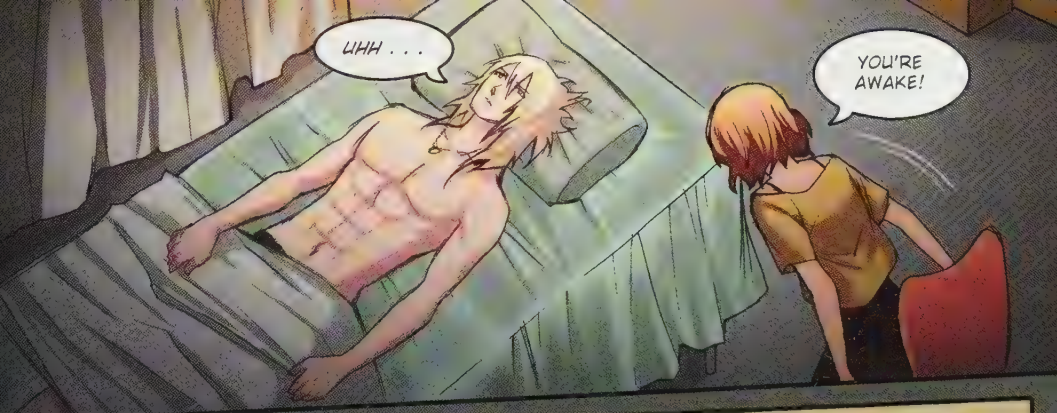
SOMETHING WORTH
DYING FOR . . .













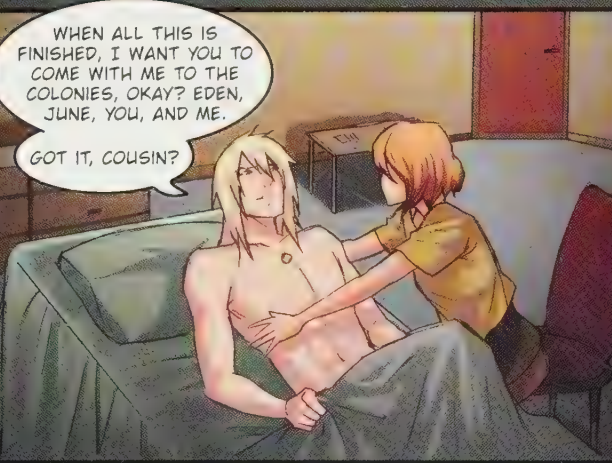
WELL? HOW DOES IT FEEL?



NOT PAINFUL AT ALL! WHEN CAN I WALK AGAIN?



TWELVE HOURS OR SO. THE MEDIC SAID TO GIVE THE HEALING SALVES SOME TIME TO WORK. PRETTY AWESOME, YEAH? I HELPED WITH THE OPERATION.



WHEN ALL THIS IS FINISHED, I WANT YOU TO COME WITH ME TO THE COLONIES, OKAY? EDEN, JUNE, YOU, AND ME.

GOT IT, COUSIN?



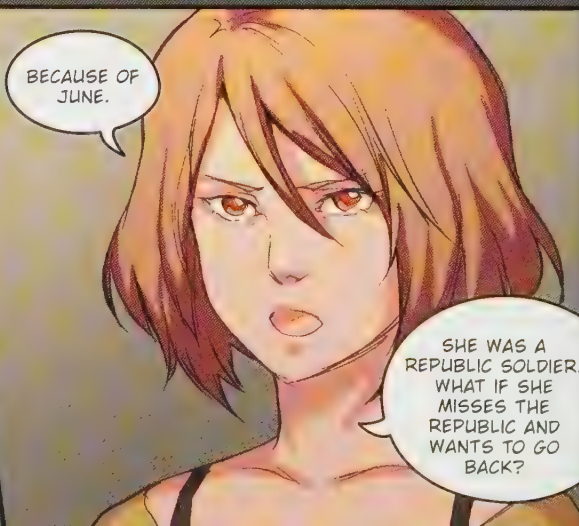
I DON'T KNOW, DAY.

I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU.

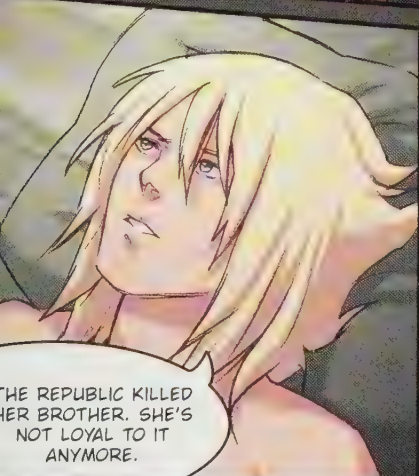


BECAUSE OF JUNE.

WHY?



SHE WAS A REPUBLIC SOLDIER. WHAT IF SHE MISSES THE REPUBLIC AND WANTS TO GO BACK?





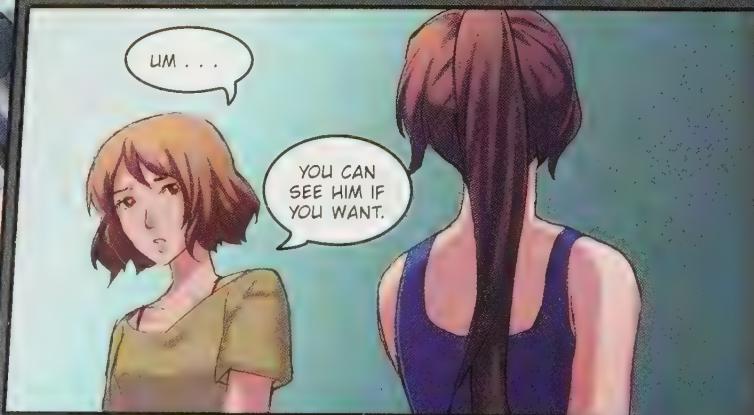
DON'T.

DON'T DWELL ON WHO ANDEN IS. DON'T THINK OF HIM AS A REAL PERSON. YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO KILL HIM.



HOW IS HE DOING?

GOOD. RIGHT NOW HE'S SITTING UP. HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO WALK IN A COUPLE HOURS.



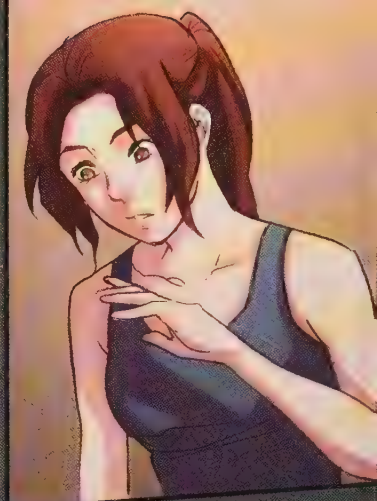
UM...

YOU CAN SEE HIM IF YOU WANT.





I KNOW YOU RICH FOLKS
HAVE YOUR FANCY
TRADITIONS, BUT IN THE
POOR SECTORS, GESTURES
OF AFFECTION USUALLY GO
LIKE THIS.



UNPLATED GALVANIZED STEEL WIRING.
THIS IS GOOD MATERIAL, YOU KNOW.
STURDIER THAN THE ALLOY ONES, STILL
BENDY, STILL . . .



I LIKE IT. I REALLY
LIKE IT.



YOU'RE
WELCOME.



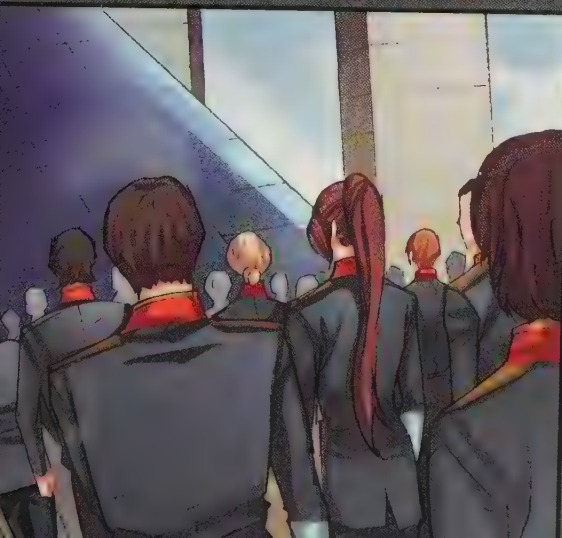
I HOPE YOU'VE HAD
ENOUGH TIME WITH YOUR
BOY, MS. IPARIS.



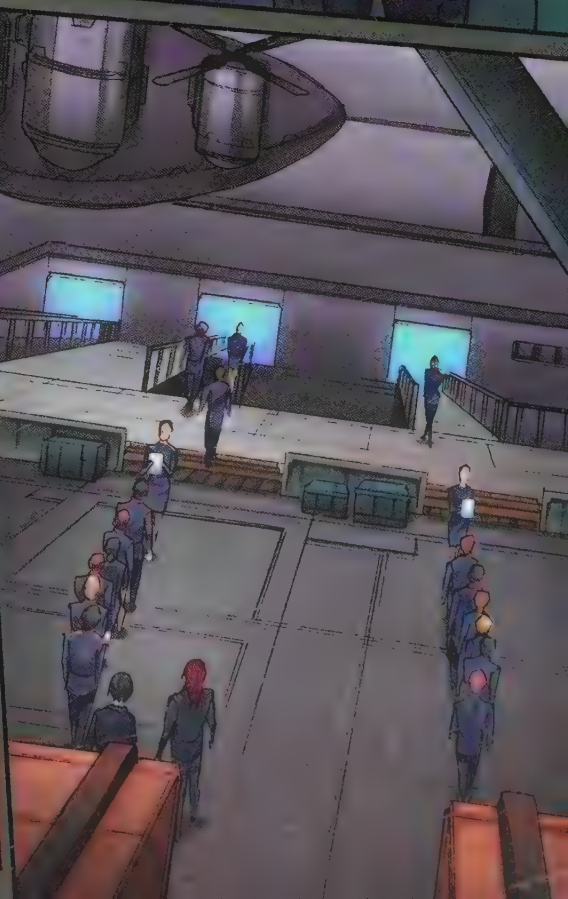
WE MOVE OUT IN
HALF AN HOUR. WE
HAVE AN AIRSHIP TO
CATCH.







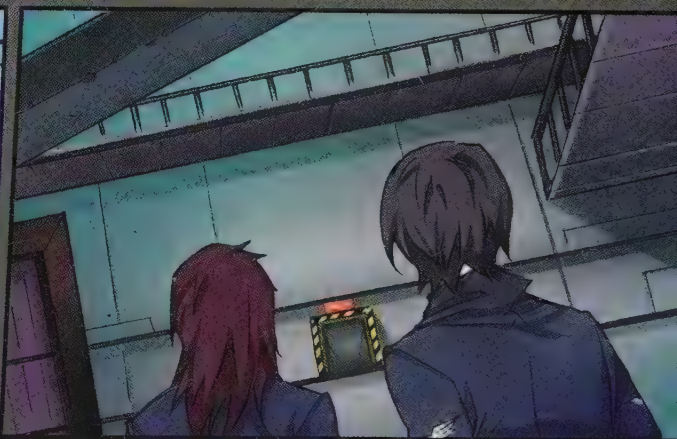






THOMAS!

HE'S HERE FOR JUNE.
KEEP MOVING.





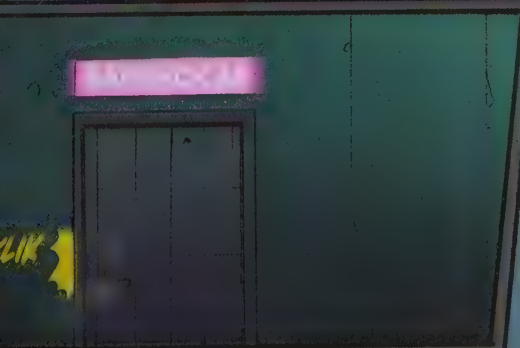


PUT UP A FIGHT WHEN
THEY COME FOR YOU.
MAKE SURE THEY
BELIEVE YOU DON'T
WANT TO GET CAUGHT.
YOU WERE TRYING TO
TURN YOURSELF IN
NEAR DENVER, OKAY?

GOT IT.



RAZOR WANTS YOU
HERE TO ENSURE
THE RIGHT SOLDIERS
CAPTURE YOU. HE
HAS A SPECIFIC
PATROL IN MIND.









BE CAREFUL, DAMN IT!

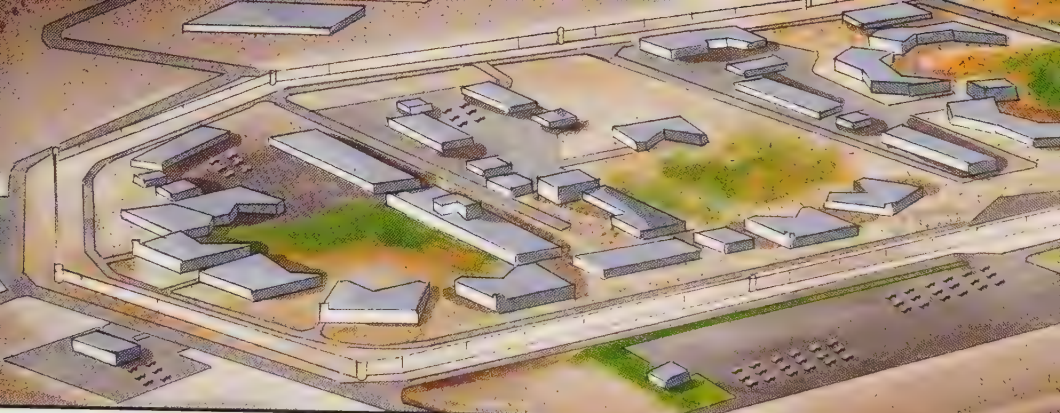


GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MS. IPARIS.

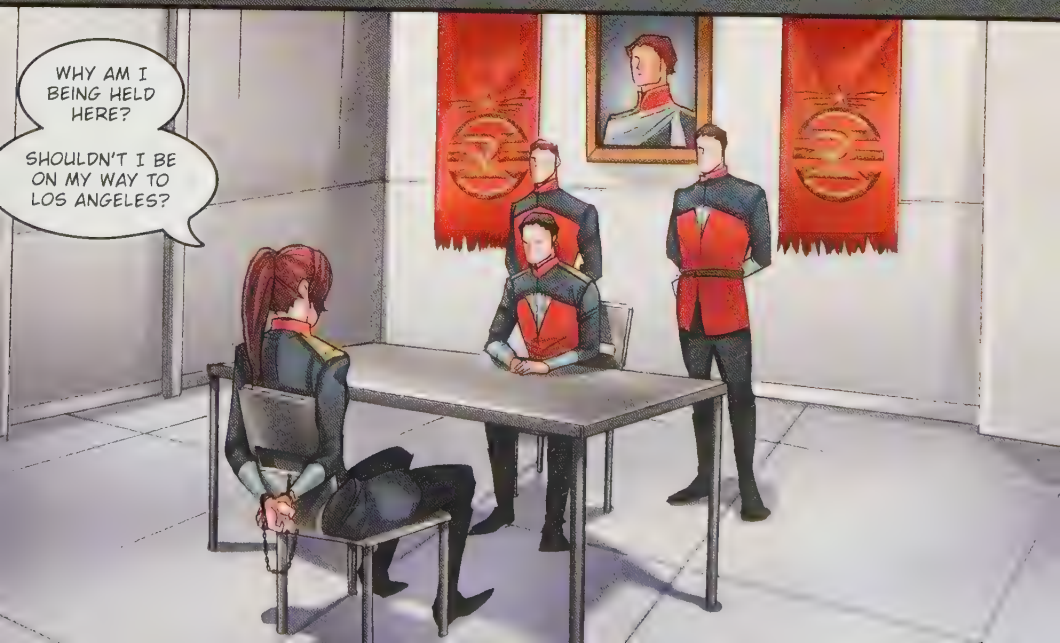
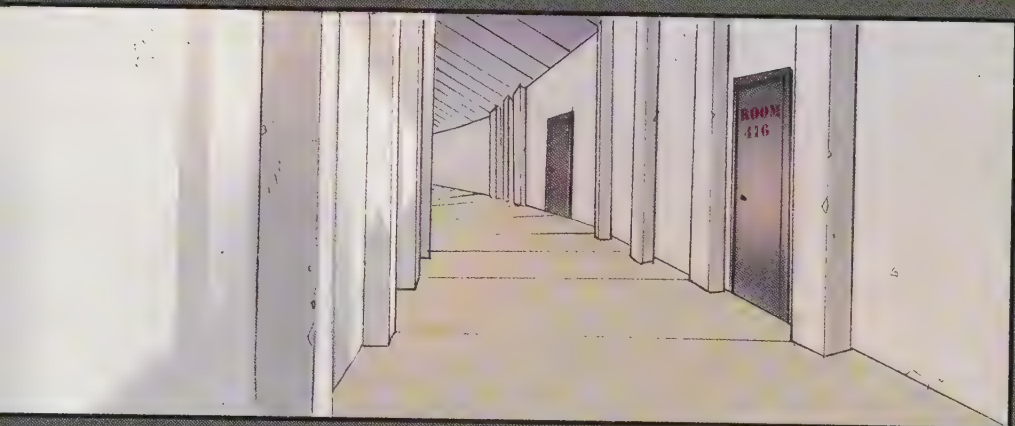
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR ATTACKING REPUBLIC SOLDIERS AND ABANDONING YOUR POST.



I HAVE INFORMATION FOR THE ELECTOR.



HIGH DESERT PENITENTIARY







I DON'T WANT TO HURT YOU.
IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING
YOU'VE DONE, MY HIGHER-
UPS STILL CONSIDER YOU TO
BE QUITE VALUABLE.

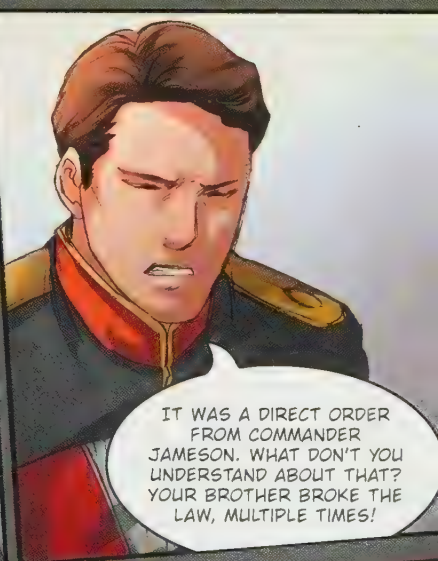


HOW KIND. I'M
LUCKIER THAN
METIAS.

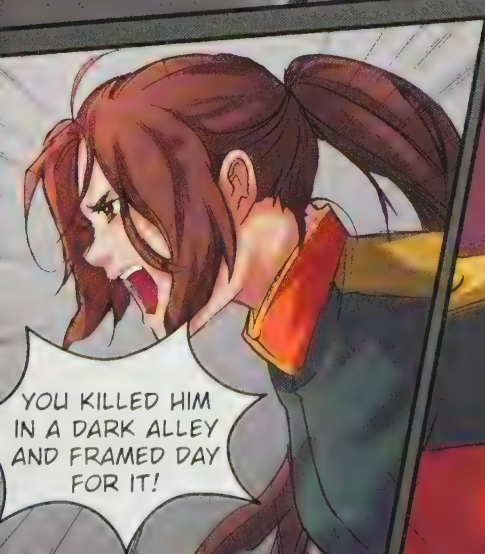


MS. IPARIS, WHAT
HAPPENED TO YOUR
BROTHER—

I KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED. YOU
KILLED HIM.



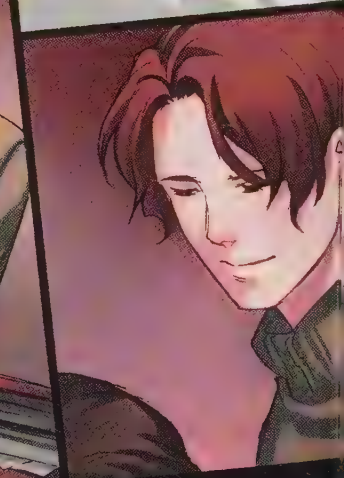
IT WAS A DIRECT ORDER
FROM COMMANDER
JAMESON. WHAT DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND ABOUT THAT?
YOUR BROTHER BROKE THE
LAW, MULTIPLE TIMES!



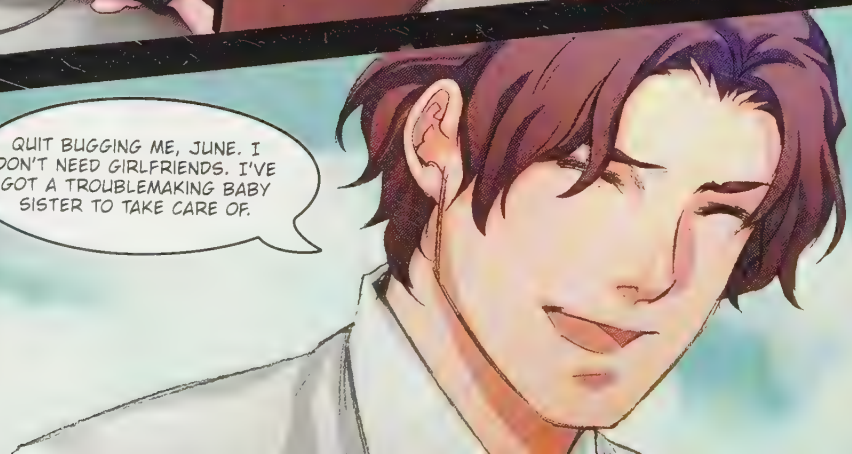
YOU KILLED HIM
IN A DARK ALLEY
AND FRAMED DAY
FOR IT!

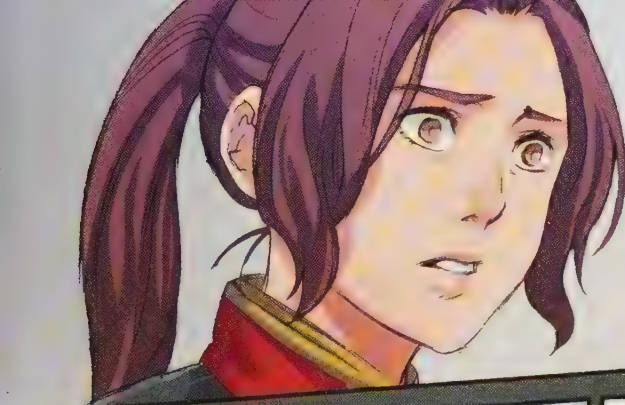


IT WAS THE MOST
MERCIFUL WAY FOR HIM
TO GO. IF I'D LEFT IT
UP TO ANYONE ELSE,
THEY'D PROBABLY HAVE
TORTURED HIM TO DEATH.



QUIT BUGGING ME, JUNE. I DON'T NEED GIRLFRIENDS. I'VE GOT A TROUBLEMAKING BABY SISTER TO TAKE CARE OF.





METIAS WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU.

HE LOVED YOU AND DID SO MUCH FOR YOU, AND YOU STILL KILLED HIM? HOW COULD YOU?



HE DIDN'T GIVE ME ANY OTHER CHOICE.

I TRIED TO PROTECT HIM. I TRIED TO HIDE THE HACKING HE WAS DOING IN THE GOVERNMENT DATABASES, BUT COMMANDER JAMESON FOUND OUT ANYWAY.



I WARNED HIM. YOU CROSS THE REPUBLIC TOO MANY TIMES, EVENTUALLY YOU GET BURNED. STAY LOYAL, STAY FAITHFUL.



BUT HE DIDN'T LISTEN.

NEITHER ONE OF YOU DO.



AT DAY'S EXECUTION, I TRIED TO COME UP WITH A WAY TO STOP COMMANDER JAMESON FROM ARRESTING YOU. BUT YOU MAKE IT SO HARD FOR PEOPLE TO PROTECT YOU, JUNE.



YOU BREAK SO MANY RULES. JUST LIKE METIAS.



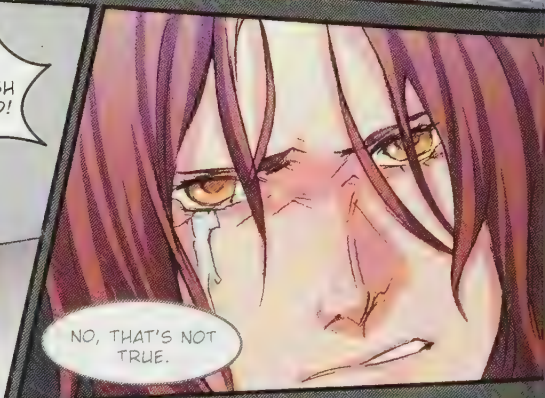
EVEN HE HAD
TROUBLE LOOKING
OUT FOR YOU.
WHAT CHANCE DID I
HAVE?



I DID CARE FOR HIM,
YOU KNOW. BUT I'M
ALSO A SOLDIER OF THE
REPUBLIC. I DID WHAT I
HAD TO DO.



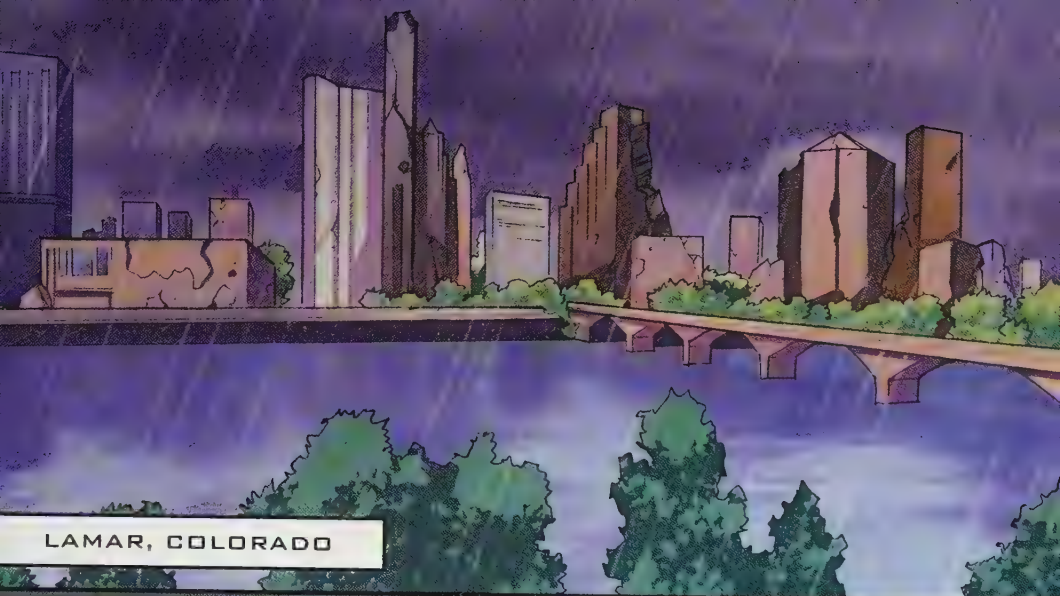
YOU'RE SO
TWISTED! I WISH
YOU WERE DEAD!



NO, THAT'S NOT
TRUE.

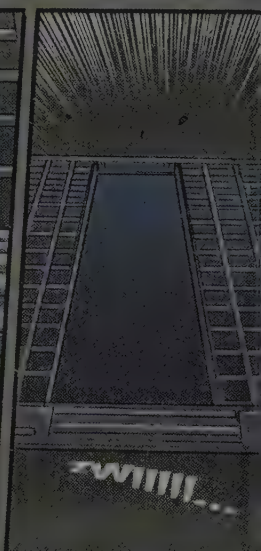
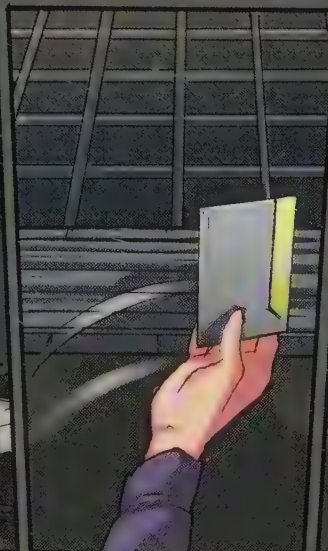


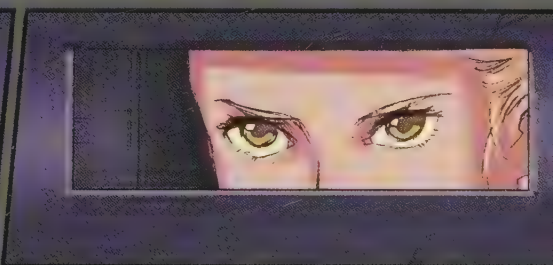
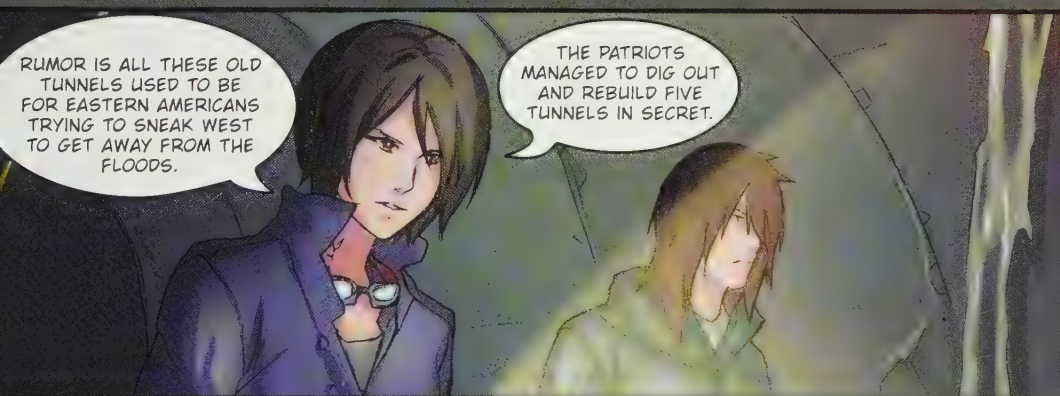
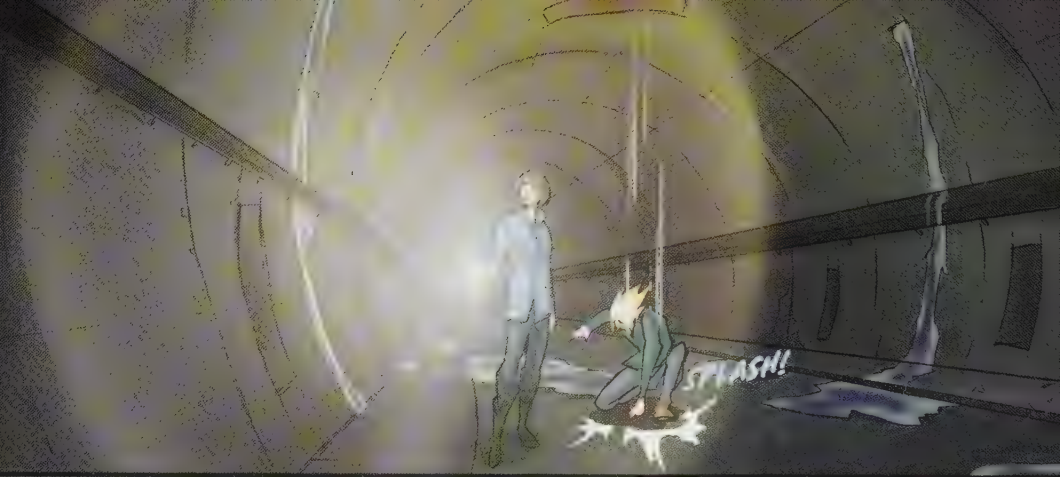
I WANT METIAS TO
BE ALIVE AGAIN.

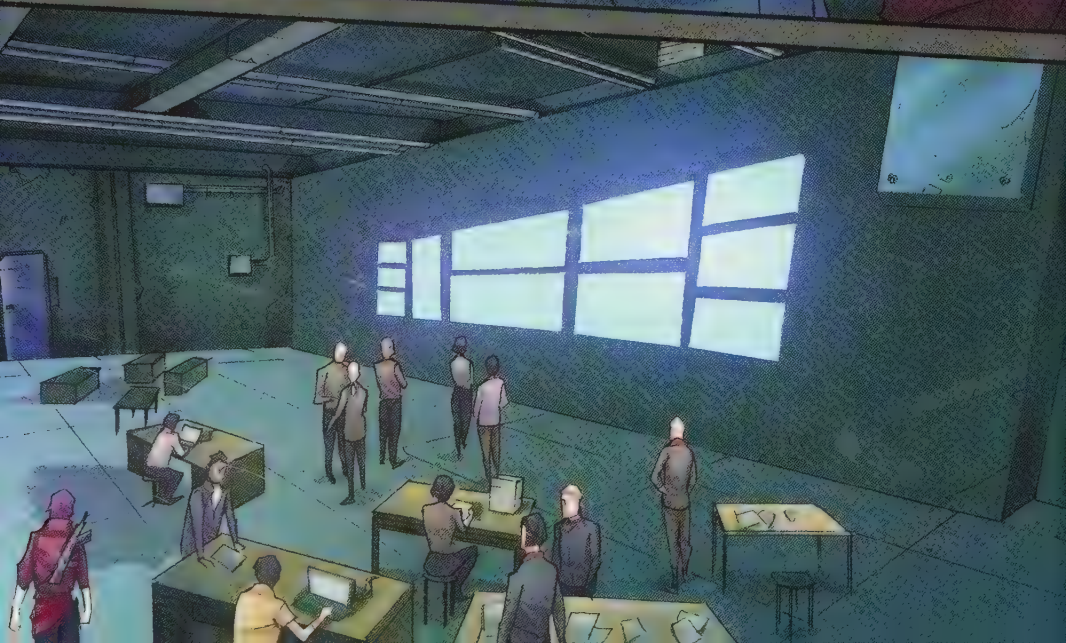
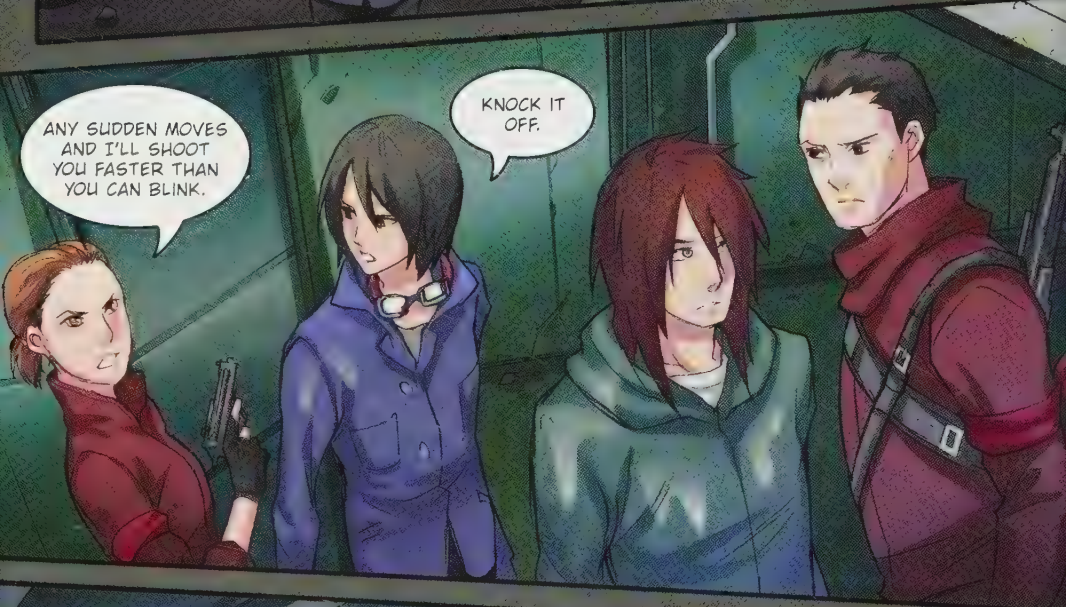


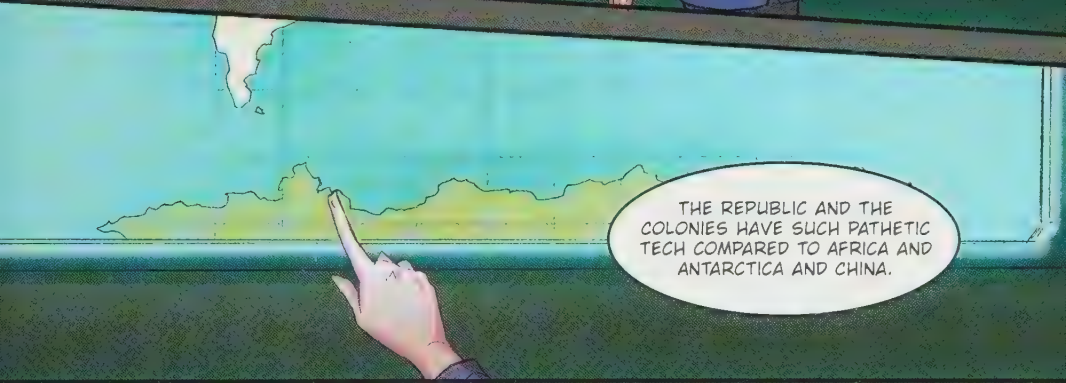
LAMAR, COLORADO













BEFORE THE WAR, THE UNITED STATES USED TO BE A SUPERPOWER LIKE THAT— THEN ALL THEIR TOP THINKERS FLED FOR HIGHER GROUND.

THE REPUBLIC NEVER TALKS ABOUT ANY OF THIS.

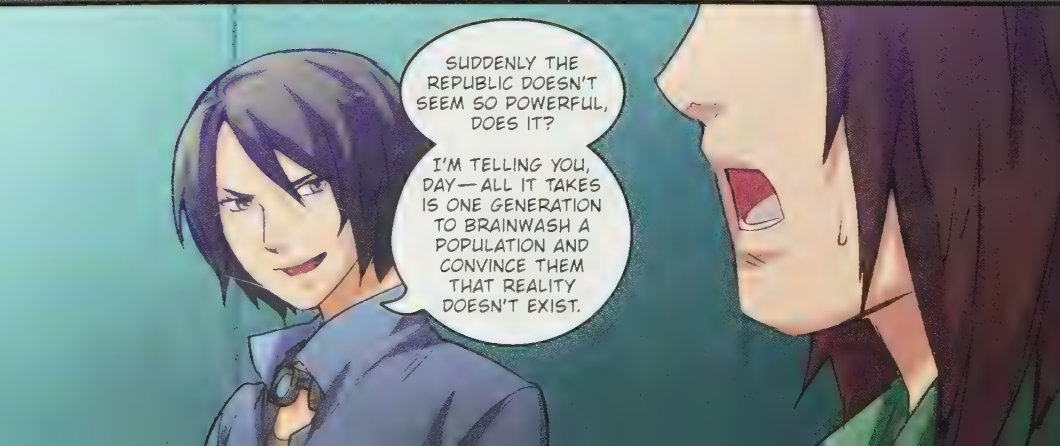


OH, COME ON. IT'S THE REPUBLIC. WHY WOULD THEY?

YOU WANNA SEE THE REPUBLIC FROM A FOREIGN PERSPECTIVE?



—PROPOSED A HALT TODAY TO THE UNITED NATIONS' AID TO THIS HEAVILY MILITARIZED ROGUE STATE UNTIL THERE IS A PEACE TREATY BETWEEN THE ISOLATIONIST COUNTRY AND ITS EASTERN NEIGHBOR—



SUDDENLY THE REPUBLIC DOESN'T SEEM SO POWERFUL, DOES IT?

I'M TELLING YOU, DAY— ALL IT TAKES IS ONE GENERATION TO BRAINWASH A POPULATION AND CONVINCE THEM THAT REALITY DOESN'T EXIST.



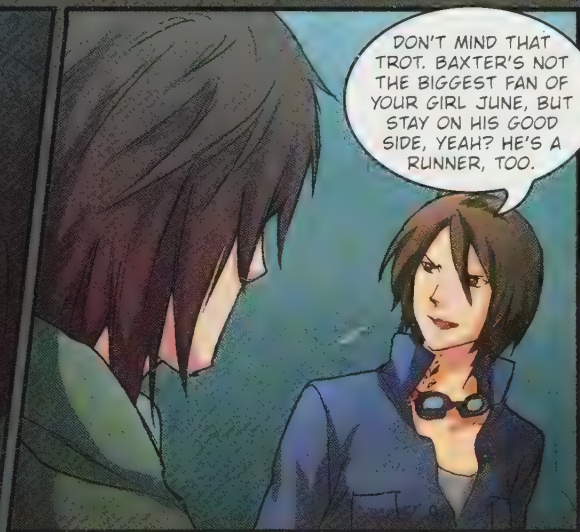
SO. YOU'RE
THE ONE WHO
DITCHED TESS,
HUH?

SHE BEAT YOU
GUYS HERE.
SHE'S IN THE
MED WARD.



SHUT UP, BAXTER,
SHOULDN'T YOU BE
GETTING READY
FOR TOMORROW
NIGHT'S RUN?

WHATEVER.
I STILL DON'T
UNDERSTAND WHY
WE'RE TRUSTING A
REPUBLIC-LOVER.



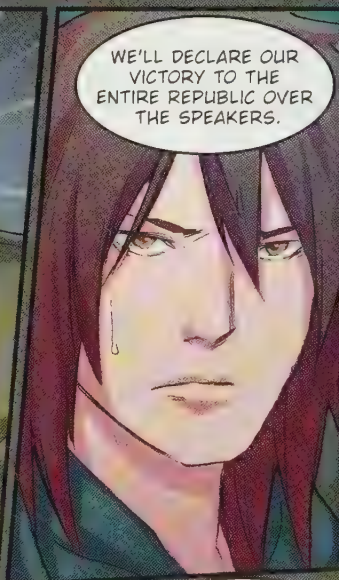
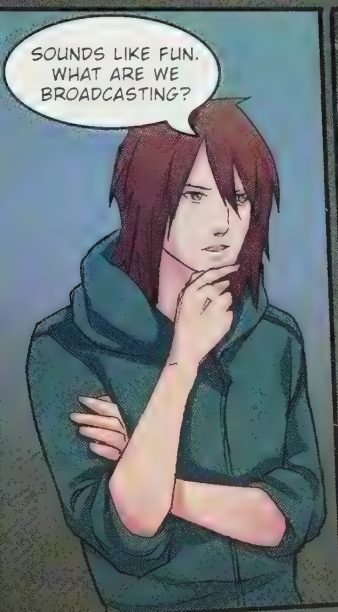
DON'T MIND THAT
TROT. BAXTER'S NOT
THE BIGGEST FAN OF
YOUR GIRL JUNE, BUT
STAY ON HIS GOOD
SIDE, YEAH? HE'S A
RUNNER, TOO.



A PLEASURE. I'M
YOUR BIGGEST
FAN.

**BIGGEST
FAN.**

ANYWAY, DAY,
THIS IS PASCAO,
THE LEADER OF
OUR RUNNERS.





THE CAPITOL

STATION 428













YOU CAME HERE
TO WARN ME?



YES. I WAS ON MY
WAY HERE WHEN I
WAS ARRESTED IN
VEGAS.

I-I DID HELP
DAY ESCAPE HIS
EXECUTION, AND THE
PATRIOTS HELPED ME.
BUT AFTER IT WAS
OVER, THEY WOULDN'T
LET ME GO.



AND HOW DID YOU
GET AWAY FROM
THEM? WHERE ARE
THEY NOW?



SURELY THEY
MUST BE
PURSUING YOU.

I MANAGED TO GET
AWAY AND HOPPED A
VEGAS-BOUND TRAIN
THE SAME NIGHT.



THEY'RE PLANNING
SOME SORT OF ATTACK
AT ONE OF YOUR
MORALE-BOOSTING STOPS
ALONG THE WARFRONT.
LAMAR, WESTWICK,
AND BURLINGTON WERE
PLACES THEY
MENTIONED.

THE PATRIOTS
HAVE PEOPLE
HERE, ANDEN.
PEOPLE IN YOUR
INNER CIRCLE.



HOW DO YOU
KNOW THIS? DO
THE PATRIOTS
REALIZE YOU
KNOW?

IS DAY
INVOLVED IN
ALL THIS,
TOO?



I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO FIND OUT, AND I HAVEN'T SPOKEN TO DAY SINCE I LEFT.



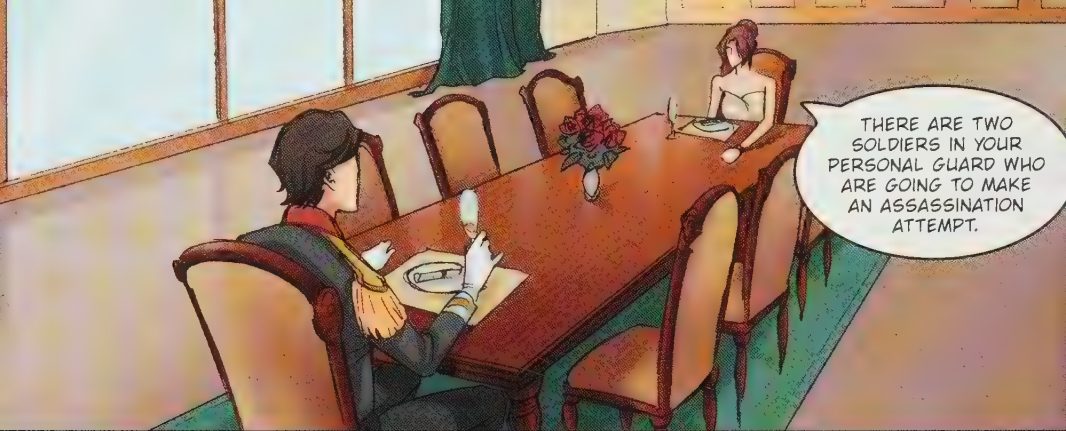
WHY DID YOU HELP HIM ESCAPE?



BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KILL MY BROTHER.



YOU SAID THERE ARE PEOPLE IN MY INNER CIRCLE I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT. WHO?





JUNE.

I WANT TO TRUST YOU . . .
AND I WANT YOU TO TRUST ME.

HE KNOWS
I'M HIDING
SOMETHING.



HIGH . . .



WE BOTH
UNDERSTAND
WHAT IT FEELS
LIKE TO LOSE
LOVED ONES . . .
UNEXPECTEDLY.

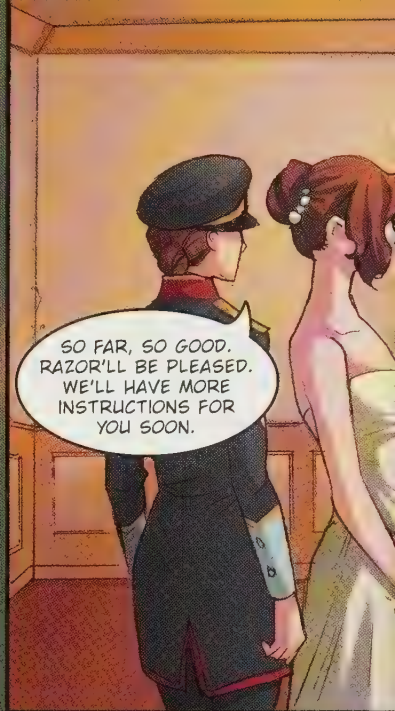


I AM NOT THE
SAME AS MY
FATHER.

CAN I TRUST
YOU?



YES.



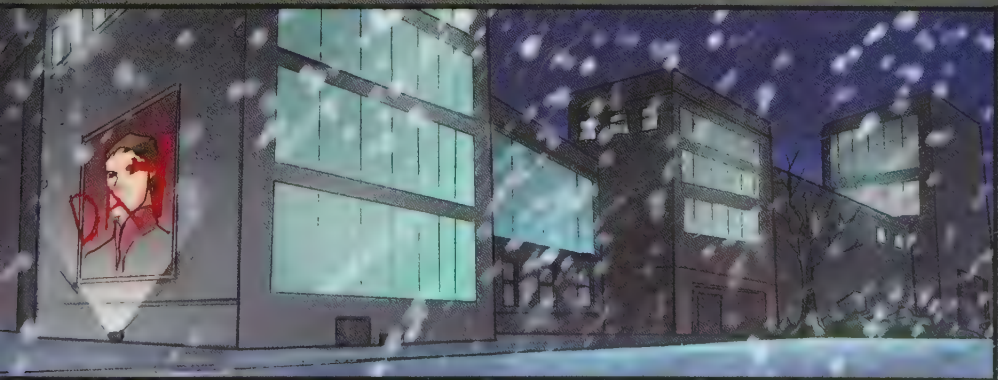


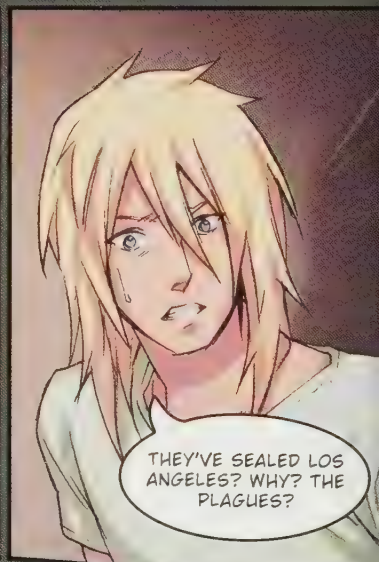
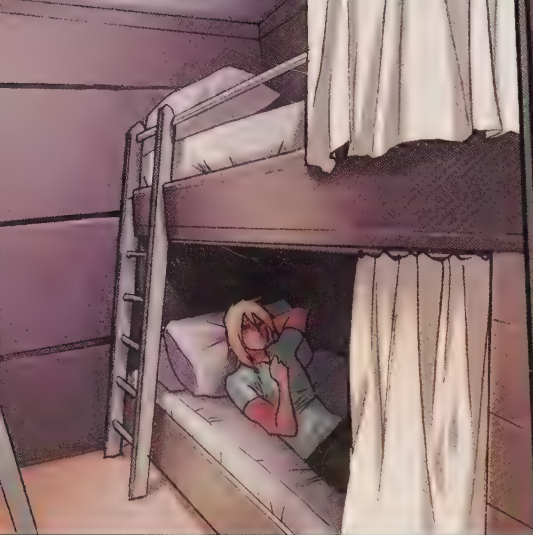
SINGH...



ANDEN . . . HE'S
NOT . . . HE
DOESN'T SEEM TO
BE THE WAY RAZOR
DESCRIBED.

CAN I TRUST
ANDEN? HELL, FOR
THAT MATTER, CAN
I TRUST RAZOR?





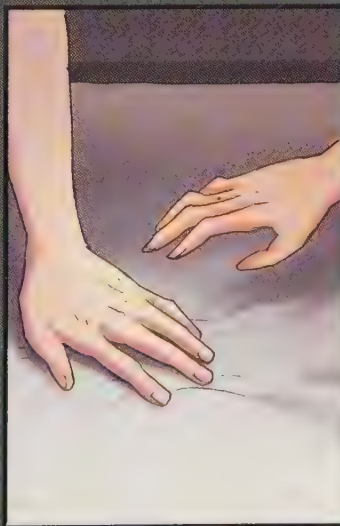
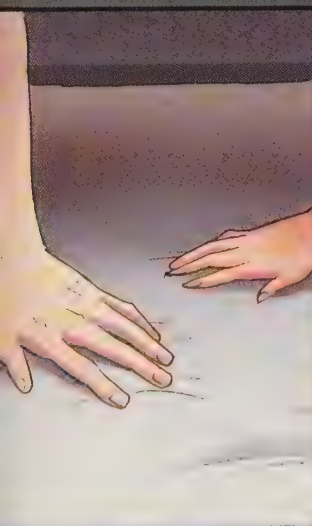


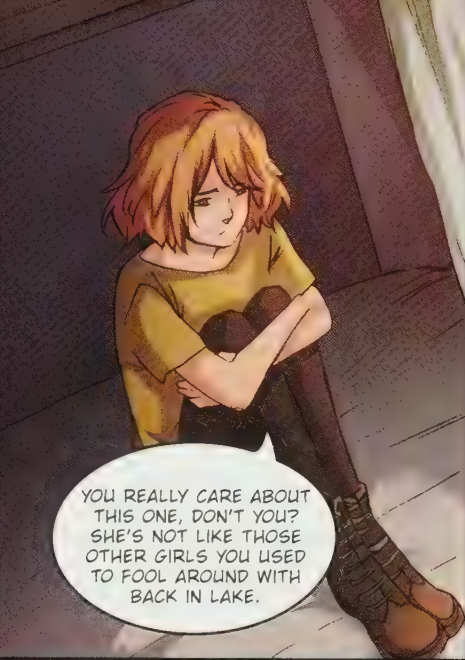
IT'S ALL THANKS
TO YOU, DAY.
EVERYONE'S
INSPIRED BY YOUR
ESCAPE.

THEY'RE
WAITING FOR
YOUR NEXT
MOVE.



ARE YOU KIDDING?
I'M JUST A
STREET CON
FROM LA.





YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT THIS ONE, DON'T YOU? SHE'S NOT LIKE THOSE OTHER GIRLS YOU USED TO FOOL AROUND WITH BACK IN LAKE.



WHAT?



IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN EITHER SAVING ME OR JUNE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?



I—



WHO WOULD YOU SAVE?!



YOU, ALL RIGHT?
I'D SAVE YOU!



WHY?

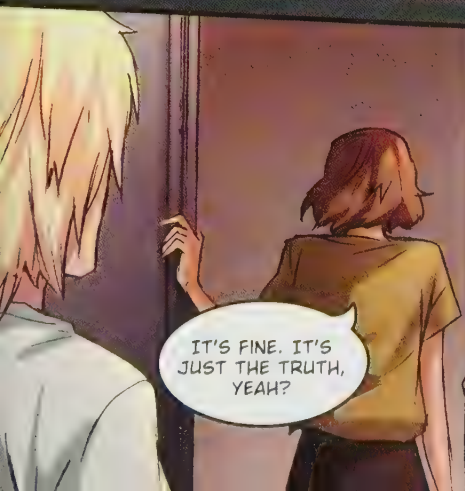
JUNE WOULDN'T
NEED MY HELP.



THANKS FOR
YOUR PITY.



TESS, WAIT—I'M
SORRY, THAT'S NOT
WHAT I—

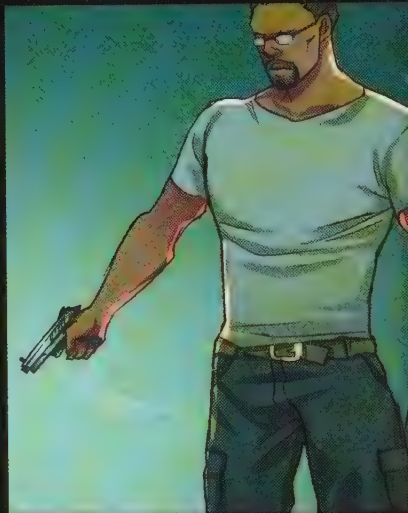


IT'S FINE. IT'S
JUST THE TRUTH,
YEAH?



WELL, DON'T WORRY.
YOU'LL BE REUNITED
WITH JUNE SOON
ENOUGH.

IF SHE DECIDES
NOT TO GO
BACK TO THE
REPUBLIC.





ELECTOR, SIR,
ARE YOU SURE
YOU DON'T WANT
A FEW GUARDS
WITH YOU—



I'D LIKE A PRIVATE
WORD WITH MS.
IPARIS. IT'LL ONLY
TAKE A MINUTE.



I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU, JUNE. YOU WERE RIGHT. TWO OF MY GUARDS RAN AWAY THIS AFTERNOON.

THE PATRIOT DECOYS!



I NEED YOUR HELP.

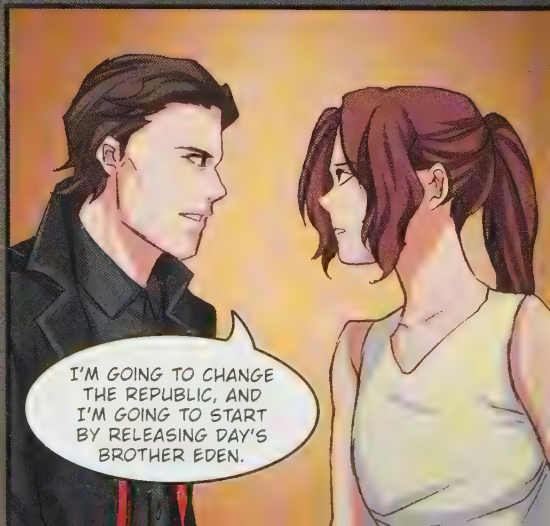
IF YOU HAD A COMPLETE PARDON AND WERE SET FREE, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO CONTACT DAY?



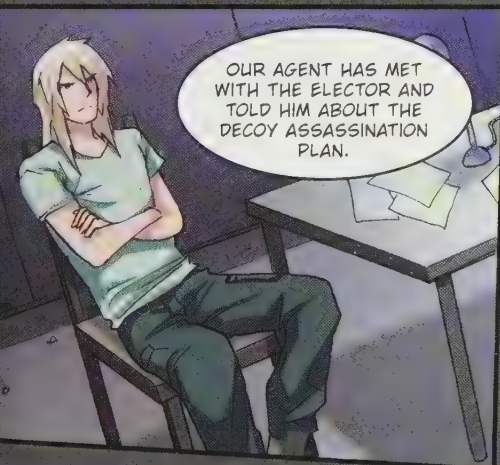
WHY DO YOU WANT ME TO CONTACT HIM?

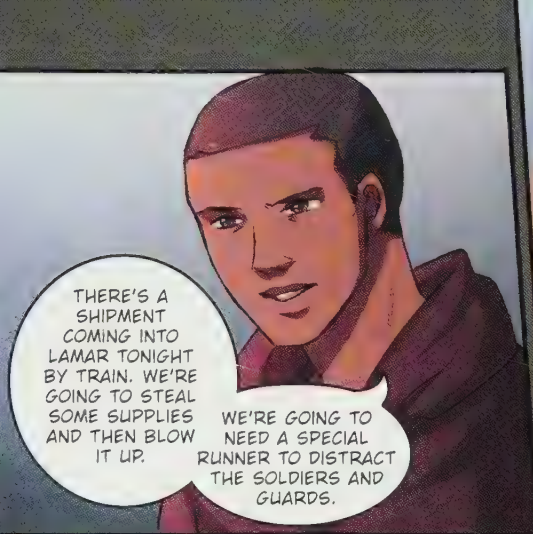


YOU AND DAY ARE THE MOST CELEBRATED PEOPLE IN THE REPUBLIC. IF I FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH YOU, I CAN WIN THE PEOPLE.



I'M GOING TO CHANGE THE REPUBLIC, AND I'M GOING TO START BY RELEASING DAY'S BROTHER EDEN.





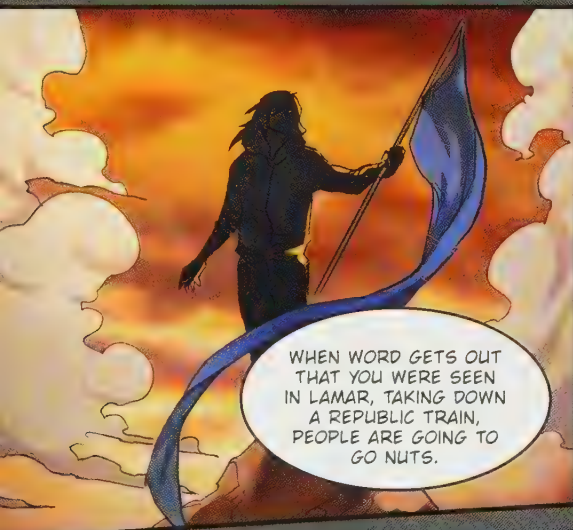
THERE'S A SHIPMENT COMING INTO LAMAR TONIGHT BY TRAIN. WE'RE GOING TO STEAL SOME SUPPLIES AND THEN BLOW IT UP.

WE'RE GOING TO NEED A SPECIAL RUNNER TO DISTRACT THE SOLDIERS AND GUARDS.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, SPECIAL?

WHAT I MEAN IS, THIS'LL BE YOUR FIRST CHANCE TO SHOW THE REPUBLIC YOU'RE ALIVE.

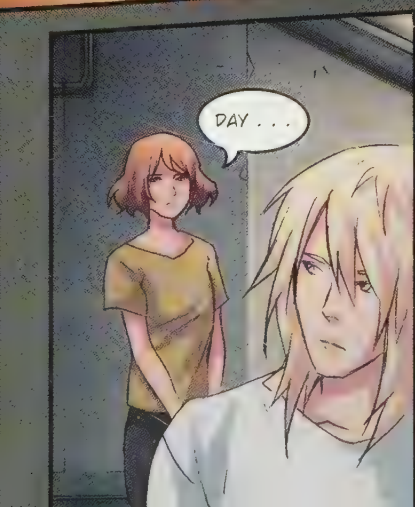


WHEN WORD GETS OUT THAT YOU WERE SEEN IN LAMAR, TAKING DOWN A REPUBLIC TRAIN, PEOPLE ARE GOING TO GO NUTS.

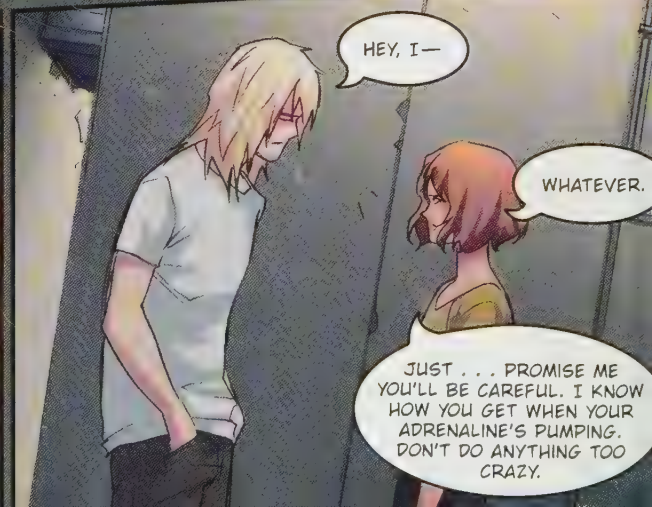


GO ON, GET READY.

OOF!



DAY . . .



HEY, I—

WHATEVER.

JUST . . . PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE CAREFUL. I KNOW HOW YOU GET WHEN YOUR ADRENALINE'S PUMPING. DON'T DO ANYTHING TOO CRAZY.



TRAIN ARRIVES
IN FIFTEEN
MINUTES.

STAY SAFE
TONIGHT, OKAY?



BAXTER, IRIS, YOU
TWO COME WITH ME.

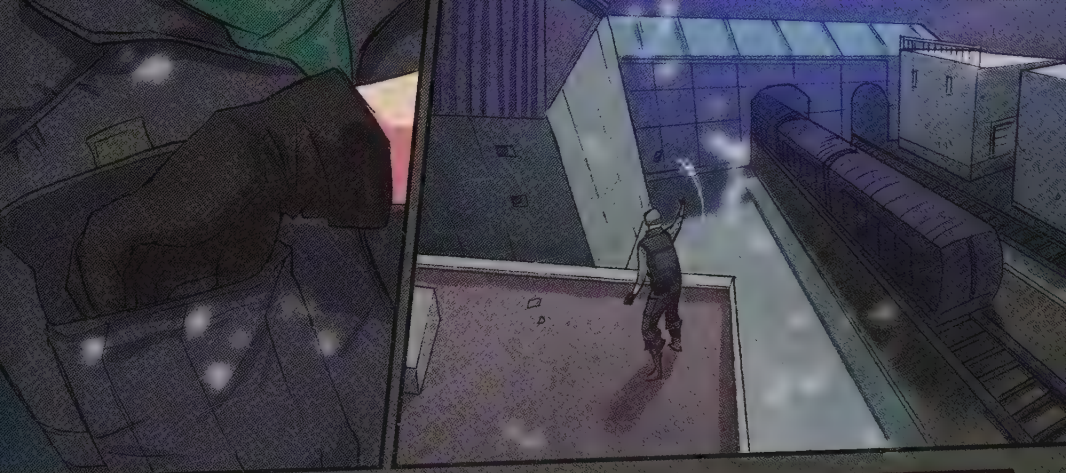


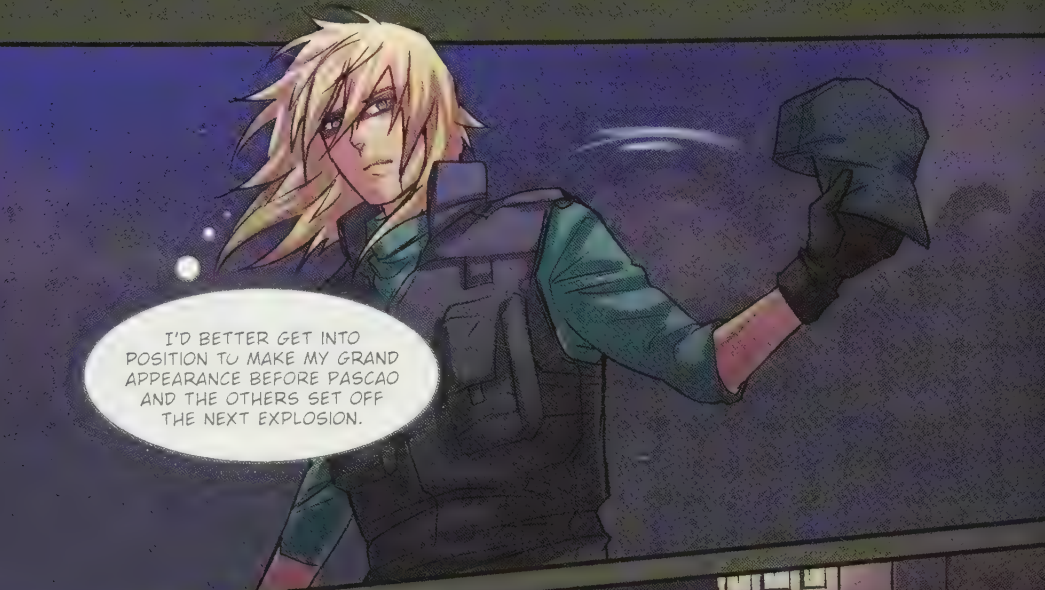
YOU KNOW
THE DRILL.

GOT IT,
COUSIN.

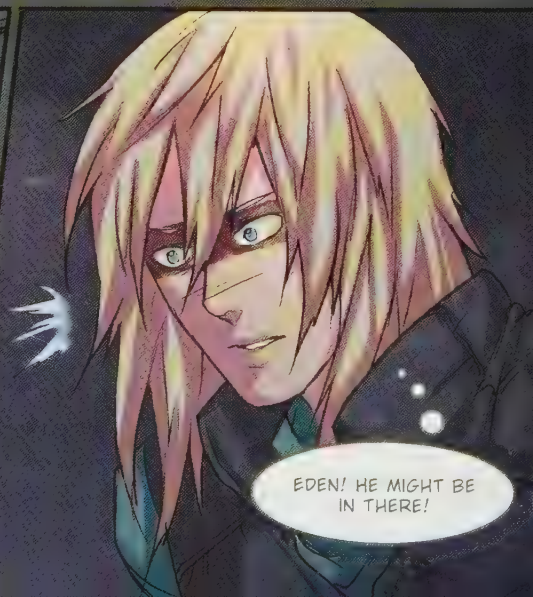
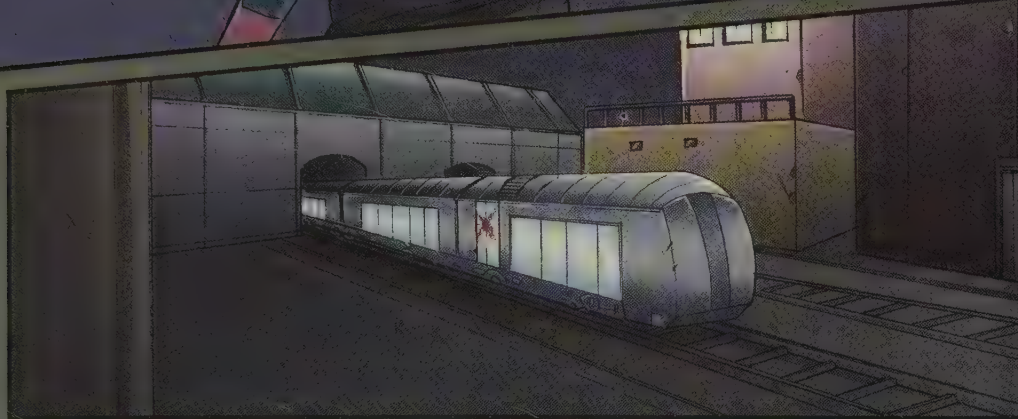


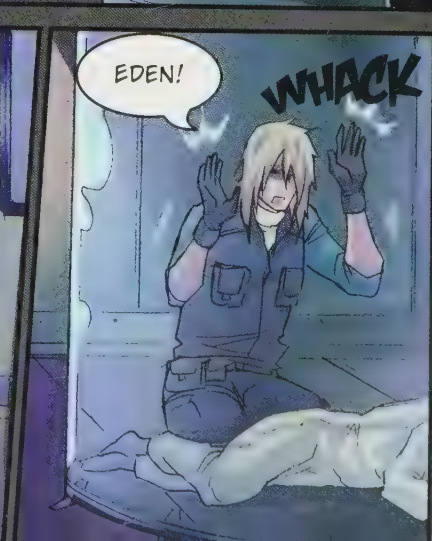
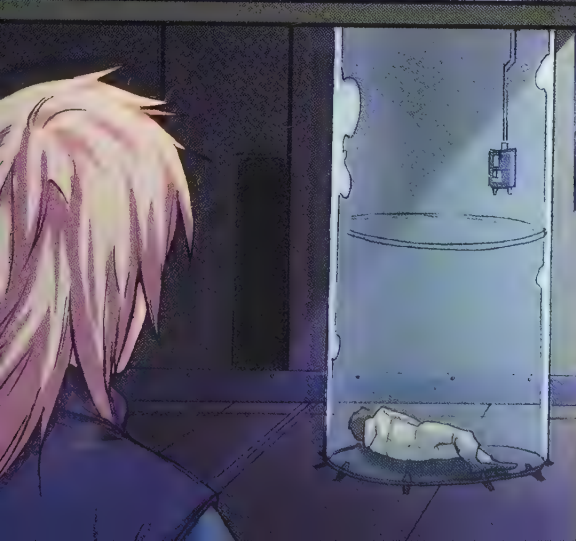
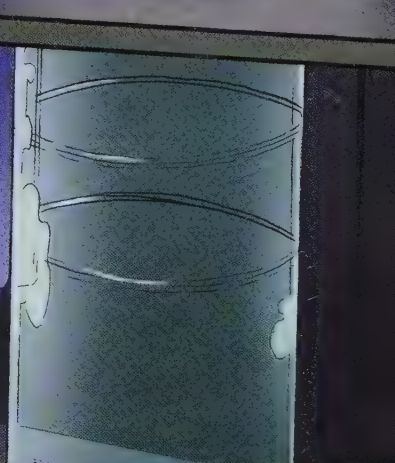
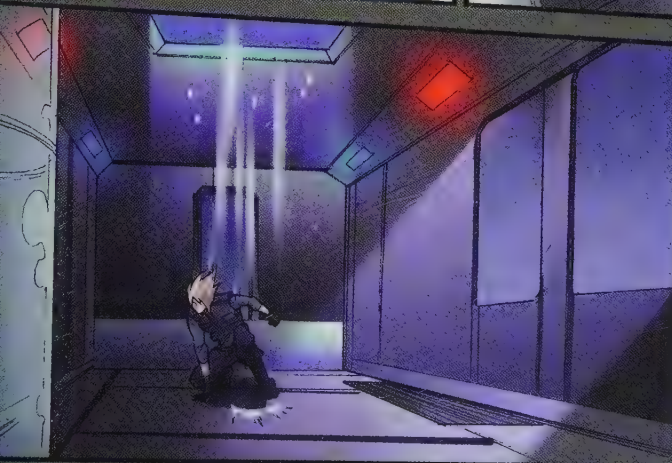
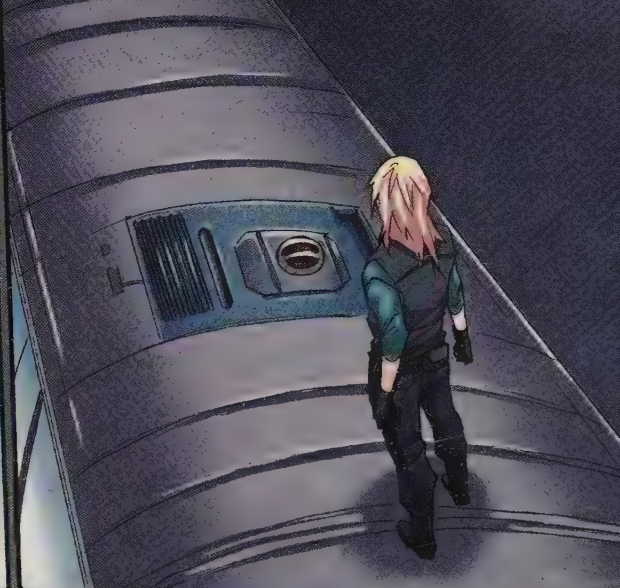


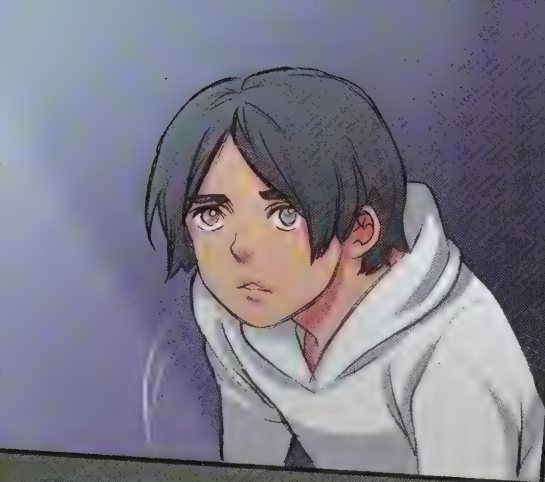




I'D BETTER GET INTO
POSITION TO MAKE MY GRAND
APPEARANCE BEFORE PASCAO
AND THE OTHERS SET OFF
THE NEXT EXPLOSION.



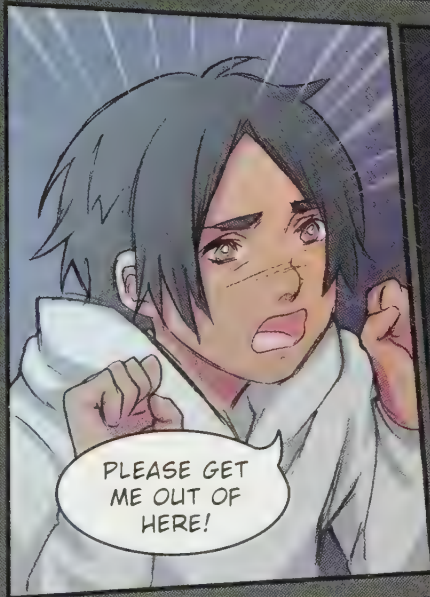




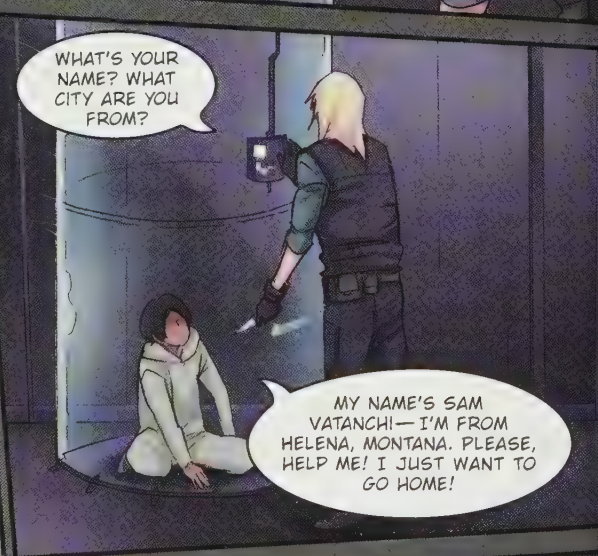
WHO ARE YOU?



A FRIEND.

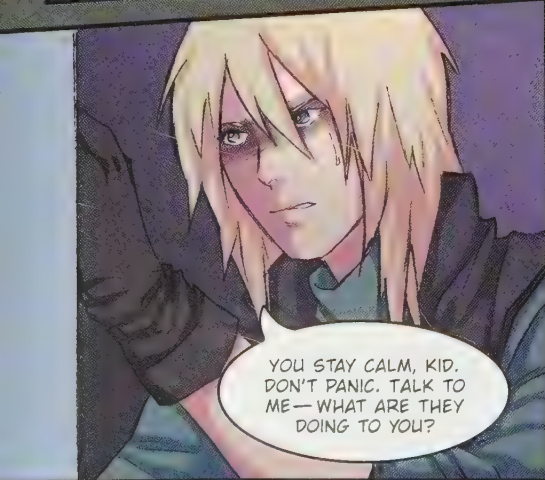


PLEASE GET ME OUT OF HERE!

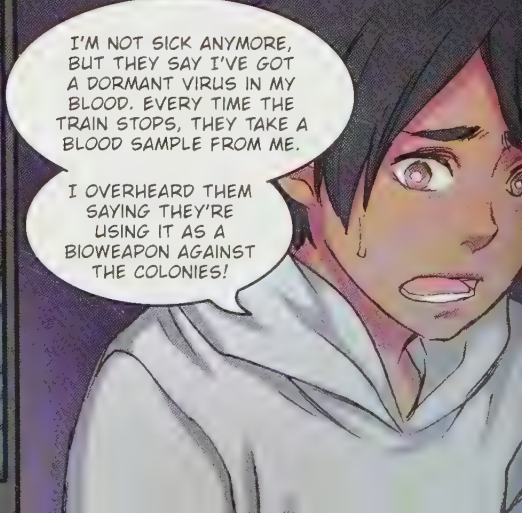


WHAT'S YOUR NAME? WHAT CITY ARE YOU FROM?

MY NAME'S SAM VATANCHI—I'M FROM HELENA, MONTANA. PLEASE, HELP ME! I JUST WANT TO GO HOME!

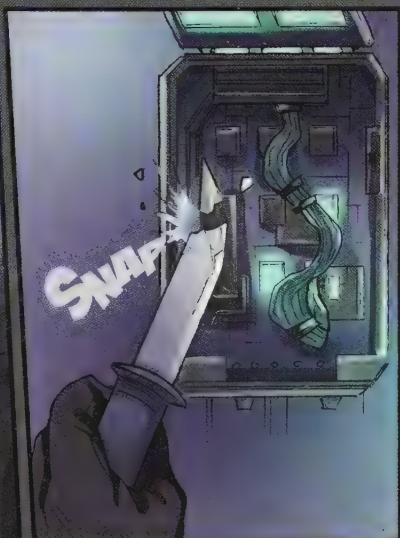


YOU STAY CALM, KID. DON'T PANIC. TALK TO ME—WHAT ARE THEY DOING TO YOU?



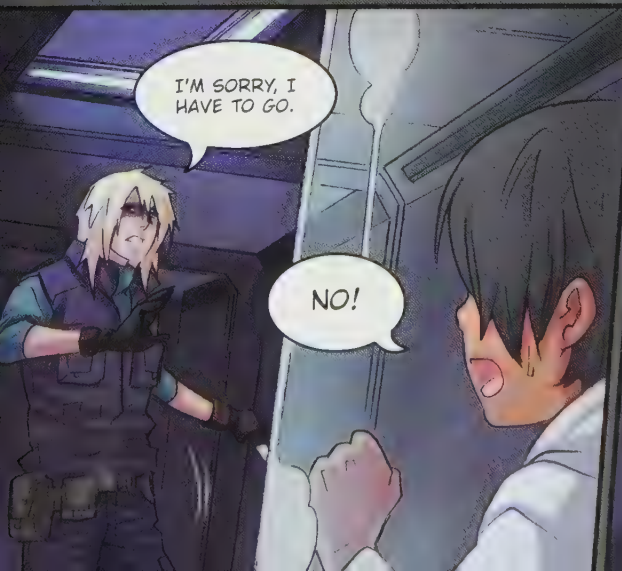
I'M NOT SICK ANYMORE, BUT THEY SAY I'VE GOT A DORMANT VIRUS IN MY BLOOD. EVERY TIME THE TRAIN STOPS, THEY TAKE A BLOOD SAMPLE FROM ME.

I OVERHEARD THEM SAYING THEY'RE USING IT AS A BIOWEAPON AGAINST THE COLONIES!



IS THAT ONE SECURE?

YES, CHECK THAT ONE NEXT!





WHY THE HELL
ARE YOU HERE? YOU
WERE SUPPOSED TO
MAKE A SCENE ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF THE
STATION! WHERE
WERE YOU?



NOT NOW.

SMACK



I HATE
YOU.



I SWEAR I'M GOING TO
PUT A BULLET IN YOU THE
FIRST CHANCE I GET.

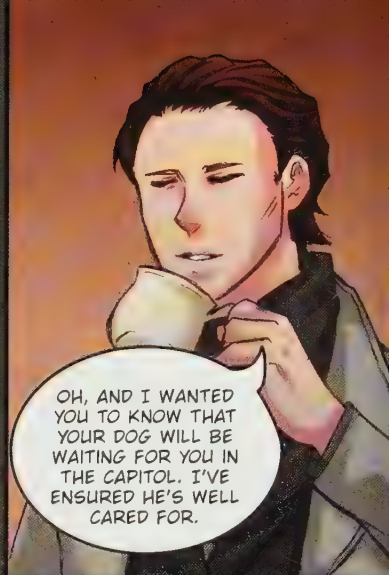


SHHHFFFTTTT...



ONCE WE ARRIVE IN
PIERRA, YOUR RECORD
WILL BE SCRUBBED CLEAN,
AND I'LL PERSONALLY SEE
THAT YOU'RE REINSTATED.
I'VE RECOMMENDED YOU
FOR A DENVER TEAM.

THANK YOU,
ELECTOR.



OH, AND I WANTED
YOU TO KNOW THAT
YOUR DOG WILL BE
WAITING FOR YOU IN
THE CAPITOL. I'VE
ENSURED HE'S WELL
CARED FOR.



Y-YOU'RE TOO
KIND, ELECTOR. I'M
HONORED.



WELL, I'M GLAD YOU
APPROVE OF MY
DECISIONS. I CAN'T
SAY AS MUCH ABOUT
THE SENATORS. THEY
WORRY I'M BEING
FAR TOO LENIENT. AND
THEY'RE NOT HAPPY
WITH MY DECISION TO
CANCEL THE TRIALS.



OH? I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
DISLIKED THE
TRIALS.



THEY'RE AN OUTDATED
WAY OF CHOOSING OUR
COUNTRY'S BEST AND
BRIGHTEST.

WHY IS THE
SENATE SO INTENT
ON KEEPING
THEM?



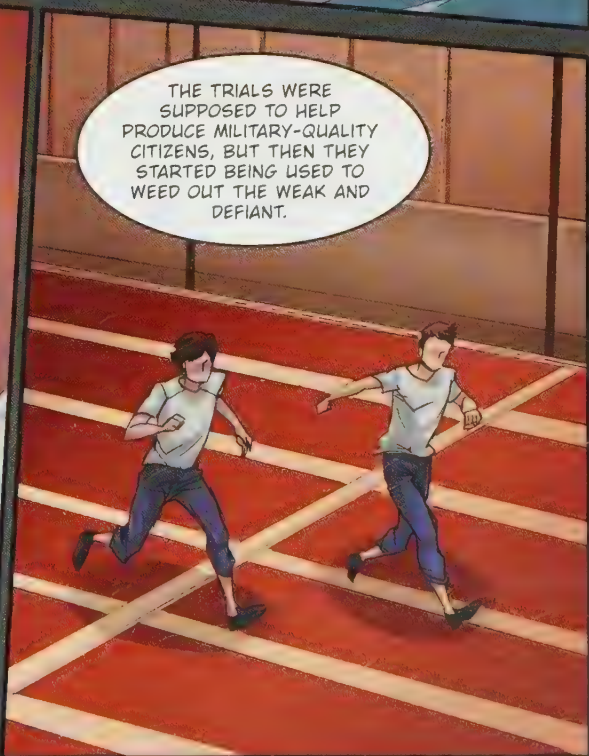
BEFORE MY FATHER
BECAME ELECTOR,
THE TRIALS WERE
VOLUNTARY.



THE REPUBLIC WAS
ORIGINALLY FORMED
AFTER FLOODWATERS HAD
DESTROYED AMERICA'S
EASTERN COASTLINE, AND THE
ENTIRE COUNTRY WAS IN A
STATE OF TOTAL ANARCHY.



THE FIRST
ELECTOR GAVE
THE MILITARY
UNPRECEDENTED
POWER.

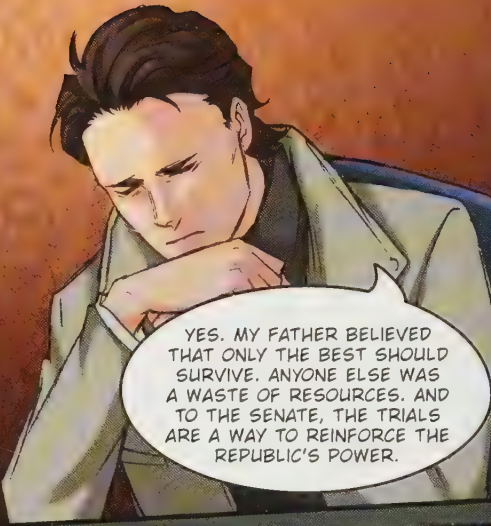


THE TRIALS WERE
SUPPOSED TO HELP
PRODUCE MILITARY-QUALITY
CITIZENS, BUT THEN THEY
STARTED BEING USED TO
WEED OUT THE WEAK AND
DEFIANT.



KIDS LIKE
DAY . . .

THEN . . . YOU
KNOW WHAT HAPPENS
TO THE CHILDREN WHO
FAIL THEIR TRIAL?



YES. MY FATHER BELIEVED
THAT ONLY THE BEST SHOULD
SURVIVE. ANYONE ELSE WAS
A WASTE OF RESOURCES. AND
TO THE SENATE, THE TRIALS
ARE A WAY TO REINFORCE THE
REPUBLIC'S POWER.



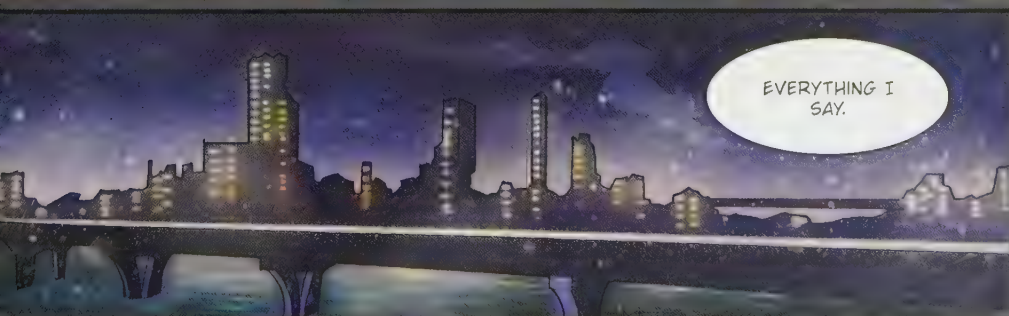
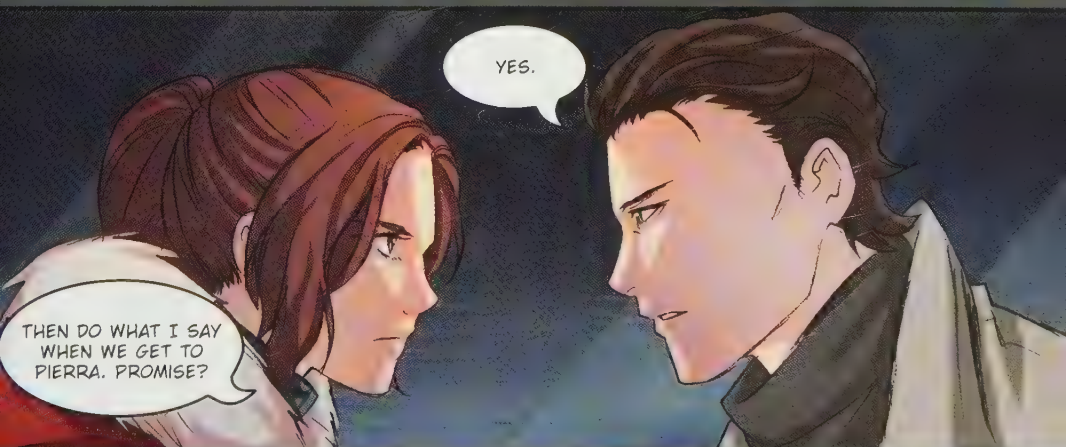
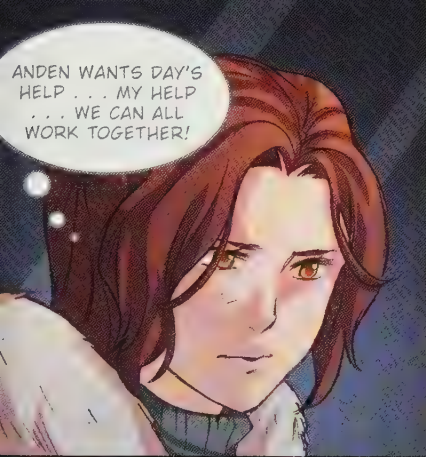
TELL ME, WHAT WOULD
YOU DO IF YOU WERE
ME? WHAT WOULD
YOUR FIRST ACTION BE
AS ELECTOR OF THE
REPUBLIC?

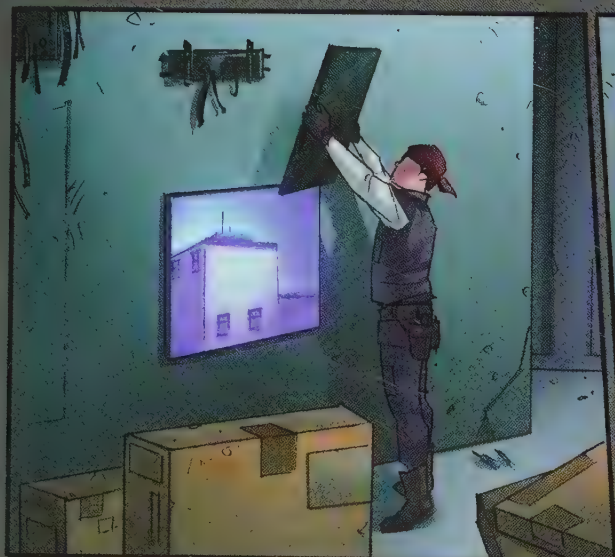
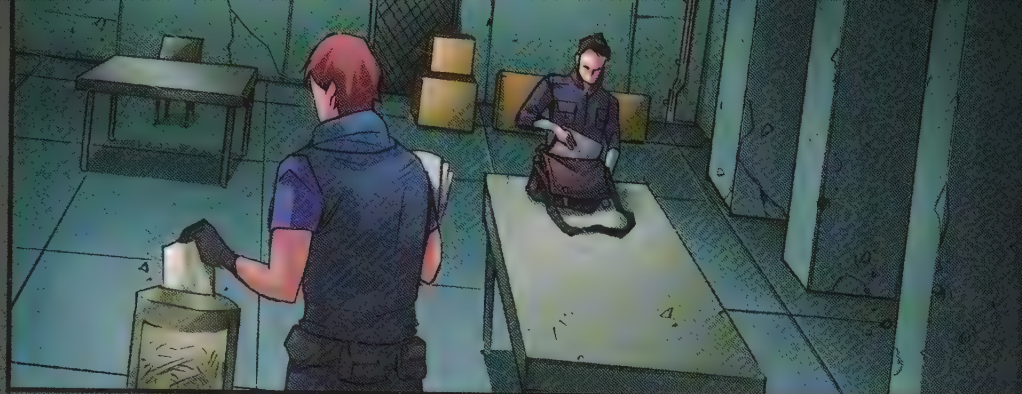


WIN OVER THE PEOPLE.
THE SENATE WON'T HAVE
ANY POWER OVER YOU
IF THE PUBLIC COULD
THREATEN THEM WITH
REVOLUTION.



YOU'D MAKE
A GOOD
SENATOR.











UHN!



UHN!!

I BET YOU DETOURED
OUR TRAIN MISSION
ON PURPOSE!



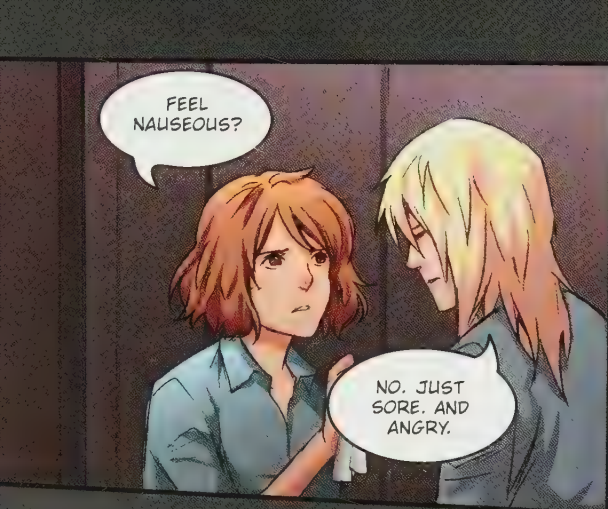
I'M GOING TO
SKIN YOU ALIVE,
YOU DIRTY DAMN
TROT!

TESS, TAKE CARE
OF DAY! WE'RE
ON A SCHEDULE
HERE.

BAXTER,
STOP IT!
BACK OFF!

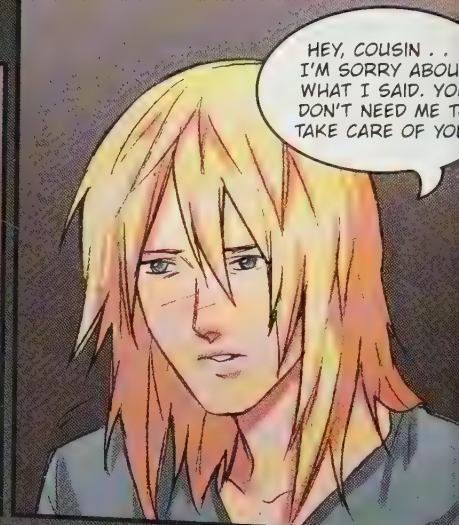


I TOLD YOU, I'M
FINE. I'VE JUST
GOT A BAD
HEADACHE.

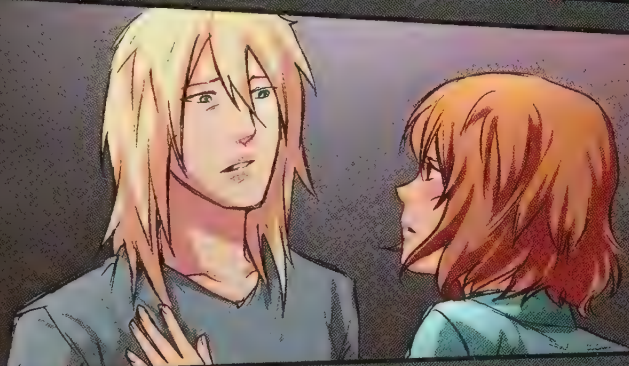


FEEL
NAUSEOUS?

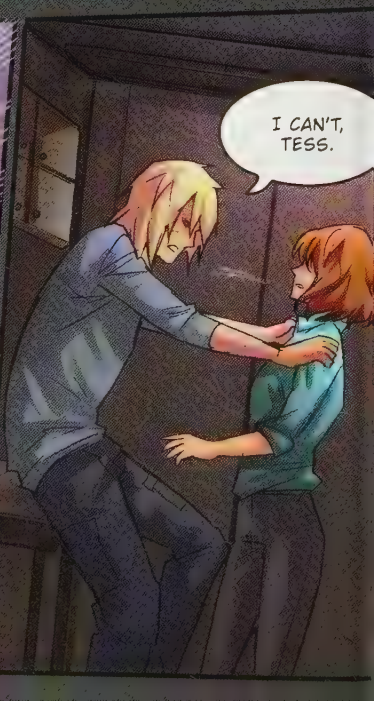
NO. JUST
SORE. AND
ANGRY.



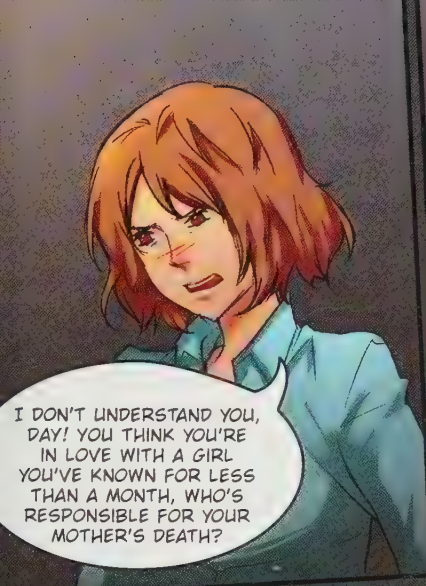
HEY, COUSIN . .
I'M SORRY ABOUT
WHAT I SAID. YOU
DON'T NEED ME TO
TAKE CARE OF YOU



!!!



I CAN'T,
TESS.

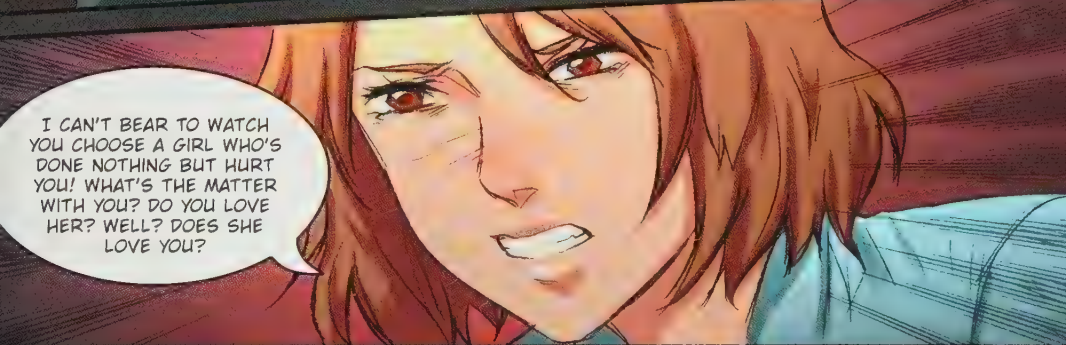


I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU, DAY! YOU THINK YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH A GIRL YOU'VE KNOWN FOR LESS THAN A MONTH, WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR MOTHER'S DEATH?

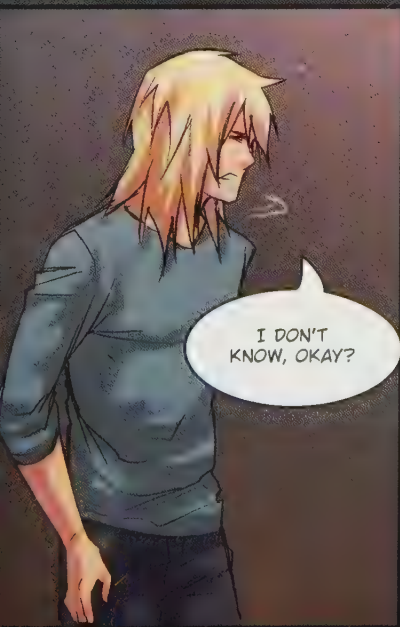


DAMN IT, TESS. IT WASN'T HER FAULT—

THEY SHOT YOUR MOTHER BECAUSE OF JUNE! SHE LED THEM RIGHT TO YOUR HOUSE!



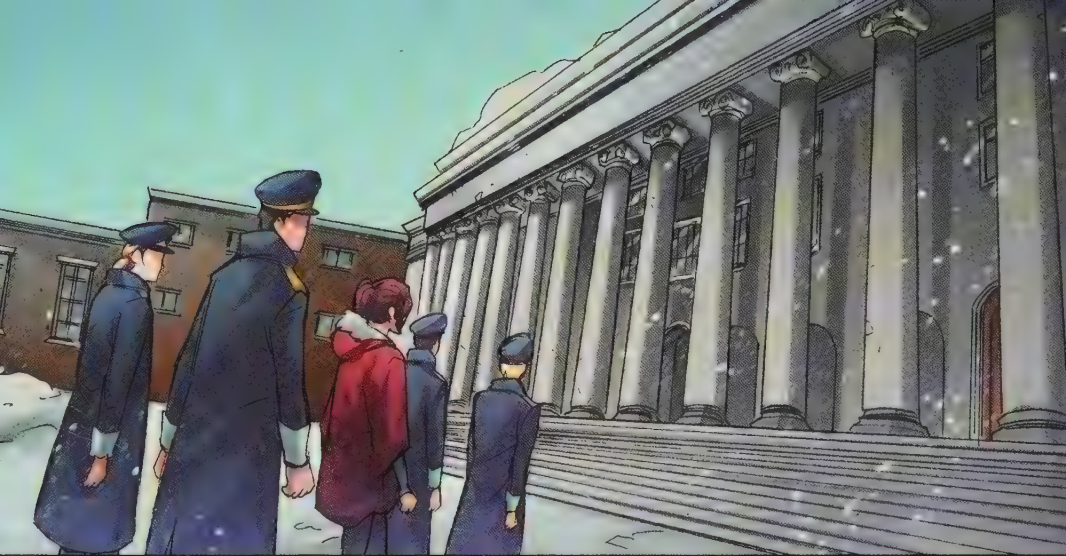
I CAN'T BEAR TO WATCH YOU CHOOSE A GIRL WHO'S DONE NOTHING BUT HURT YOU! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? DO YOU LOVE HER? WELL? DOES SHE LOVE YOU?



I DON'T KNOW, OKAY?

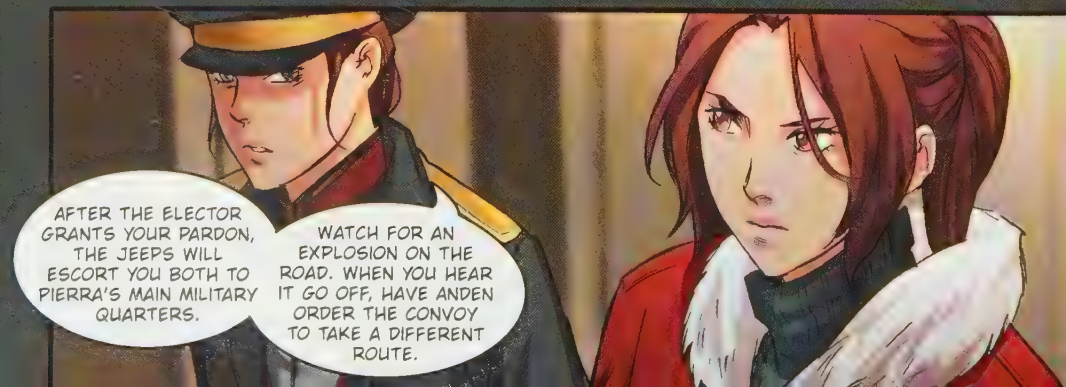


JUNE'S GOING TO BREAK YOUR HEART, DAY.



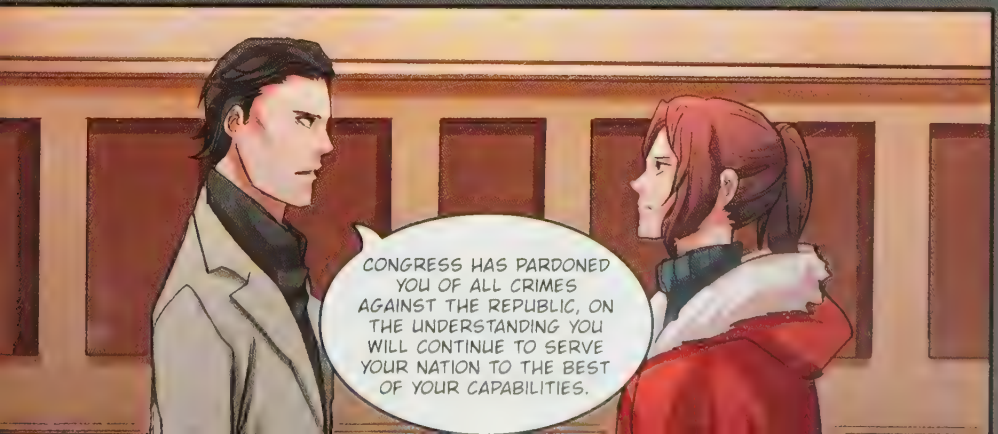
HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

NOT LONG, MS. IPARIS.



AFTER THE ELECTOR GRANTS YOUR PARDON, THE JEEPS WILL ESCORT YOU BOTH TO PIERRA'S MAIN MILITARY QUARTERS.

WATCH FOR AN EXPLOSION ON THE ROAD. WHEN YOU HEAR IT GO OFF, HAVE ANDEN ORDER THE CONVOY TO TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE.





ANY COMMENTS,
SENATORS?



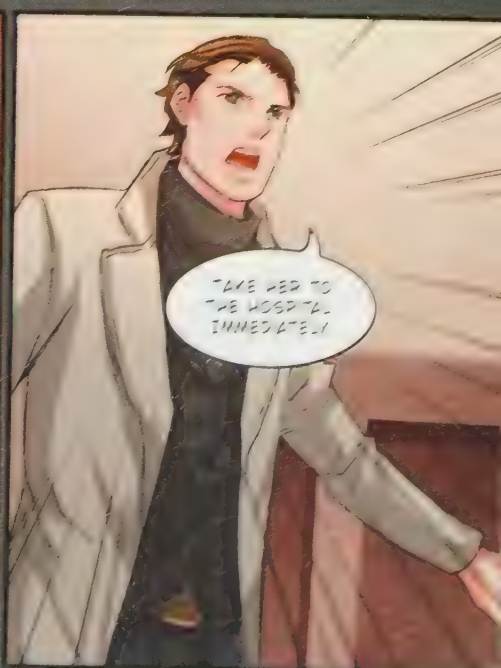
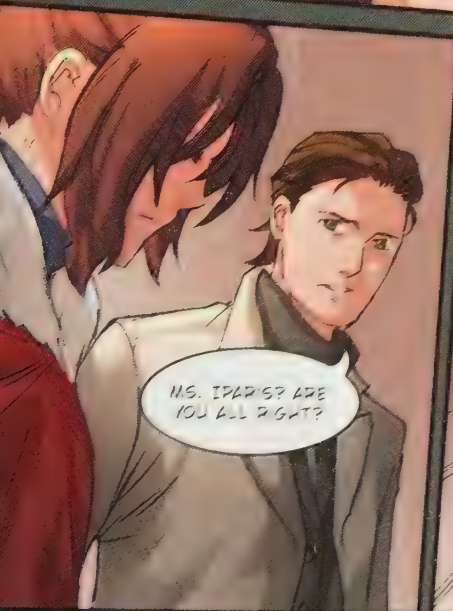
UNDERSTAND YOU ARE
NOT YET IN THE CLEAR,
AGENT IPARIS. YOU
WILL BE WATCHED AT
ALL TIMES.

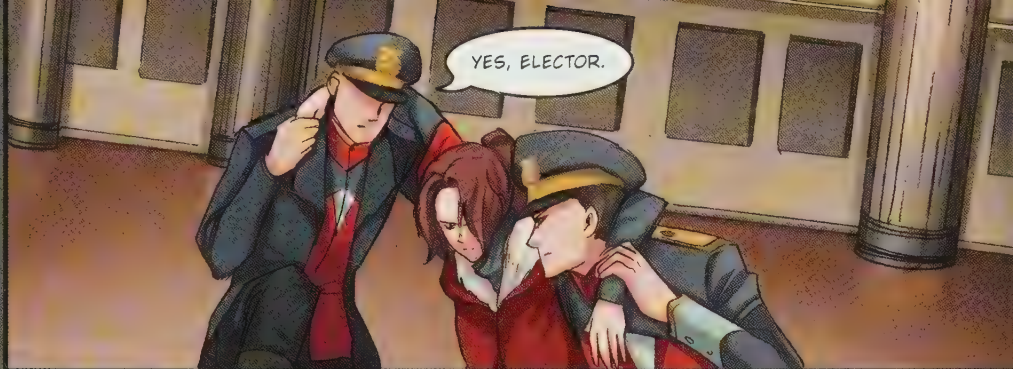


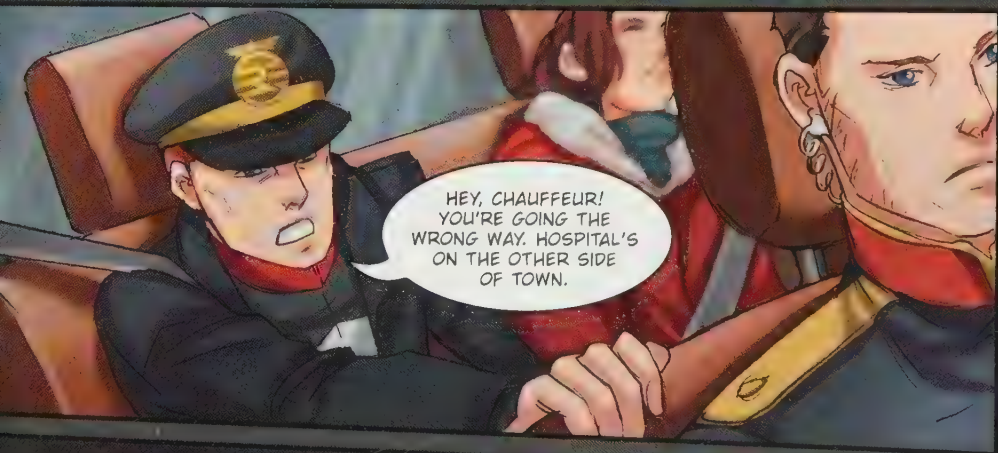
THANK YOU,
ELECTOR. THANK
YOU, SENATORS.



WELL, NOW THAT
THAT'S TAKEN CARE
OF, SHALL WE?







HEY, CHAUFFEUR!
YOU'RE GOING THE
WRONG WAY. HOSPITAL'S
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF TOWN.



NEGATIVE. WE JUST
GOT ORDERS TO
STAY OUR ORIGINAL
COURSE.

COMMANDER DESOTO
SAYS THE ELECTOR
WANTS US TO TAKE MS.
IPARIS TO THE HOSPITAL
AFTERWARD.



RAZOR! HE MUST
BE LYING TO
ANDEN'S DRIVER.





FIFTEEN MINUTES
UNTIL SHOWTIME.



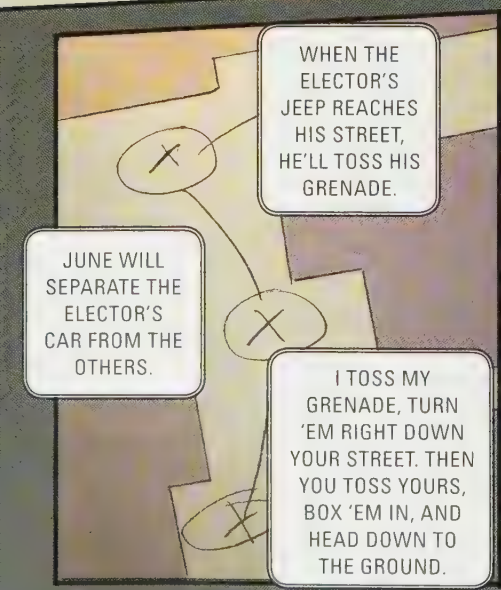
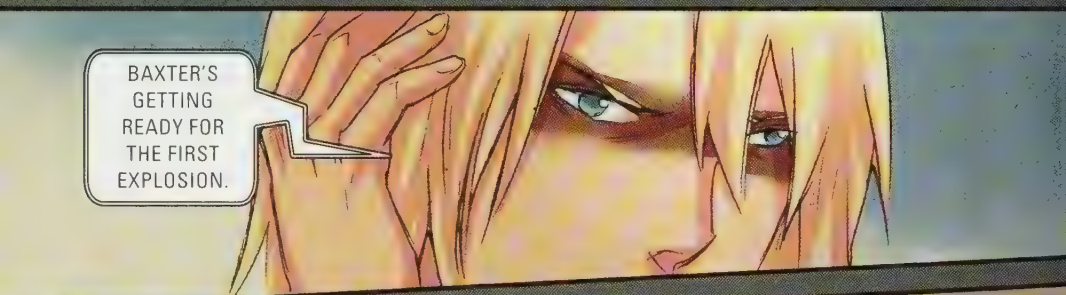
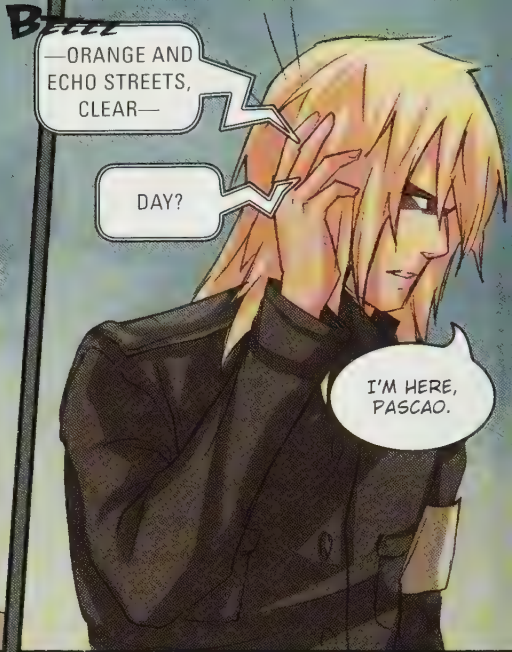
IN FIFTEEN MINUTES
THE ELECTOR'S
GOING TO BE
DEAD . . . BY
MY HAND.



WHAT THEN?



A NEW
GOVERNMENT. A
NEW ORDER.





REMEMBER EDEN.
REMEMBER SAM
VATANCHI. YOU CAN
DO THIS.



THE CONVOY'S
LATE.



SOMETHING MUST'VE
HAPPENED. NO MATTER
WHAT TESS THINKS,
JUNE WOULD NEVER
BETRAY US, NOT AFTER
WHAT THE REPUBLIC DID
TO METIAS.



WHAT IF
SOMEONE'S TIPPED
THEM OFF?

THEY'D EXECUTE JUNE
WITHOUT A SECOND
THOUGHT.



STAND BY.
WE'VE GOT A
DELAY.

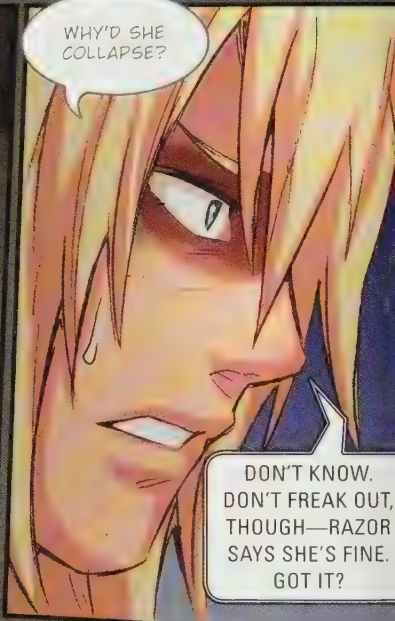


NO SHIT . . .

WHY? WHAT'S
GOING ON?

SOMETHING'S
WRONG WITH
JUNE. SHE FAINTED
WHILE LEAVING THE
COURTHOUSE.

WE'RE RESETTNG
THE CLOCKS FOR
A TWO-MINUTE
DELAY.

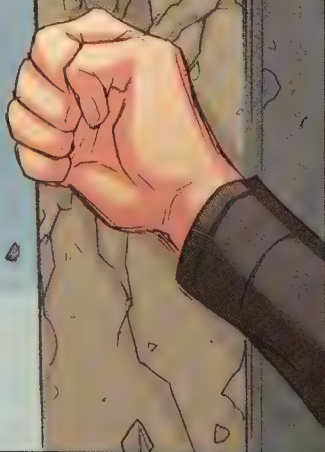


WHY'D SHE
COLLAPSE?

DON'T KNOW.
DON'T FREAK OUT,
THOUGH—RAZOR
SAYS SHE'S FINE.
GOT IT?

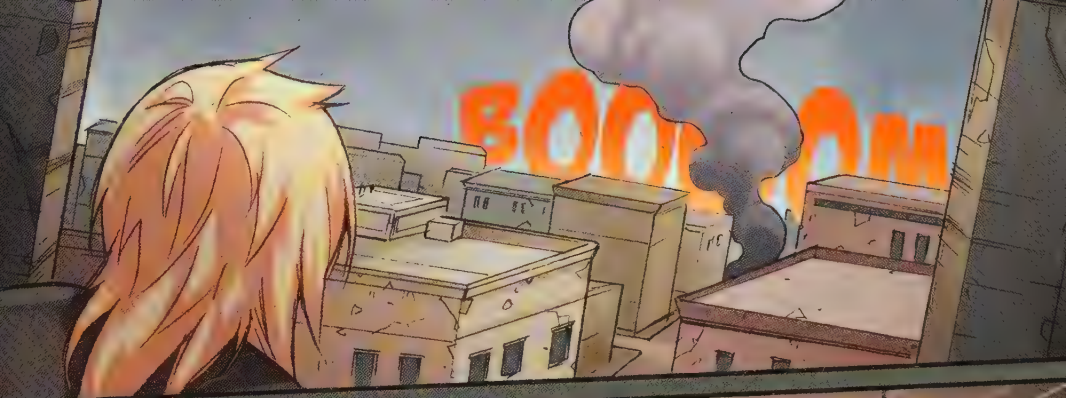


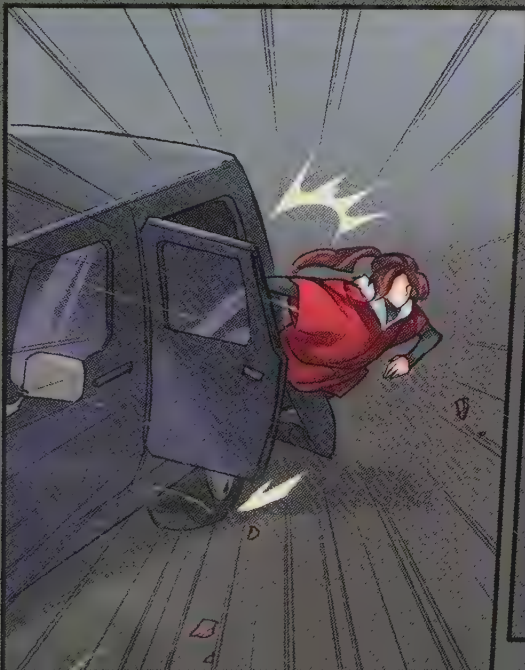
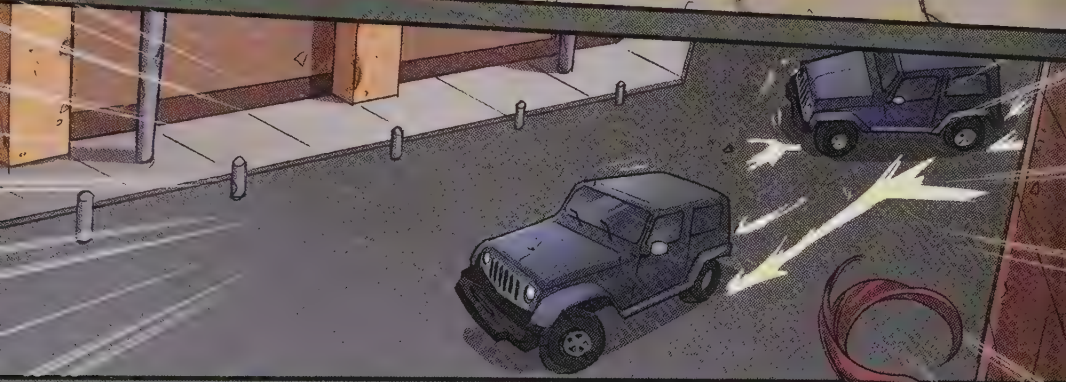
GOT IT.

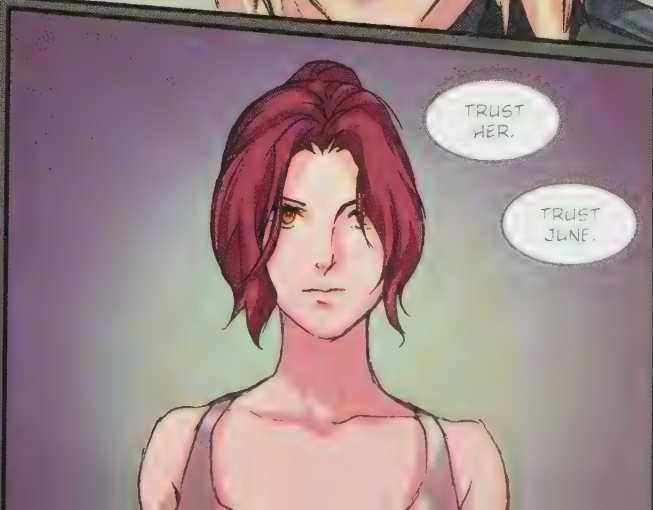
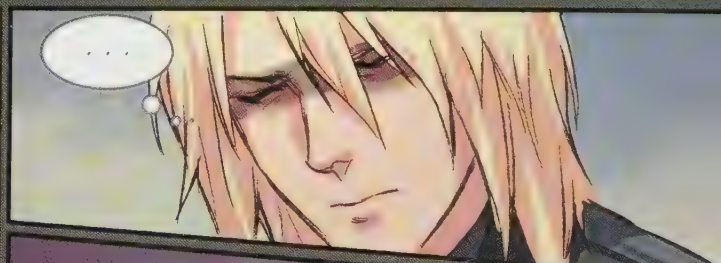
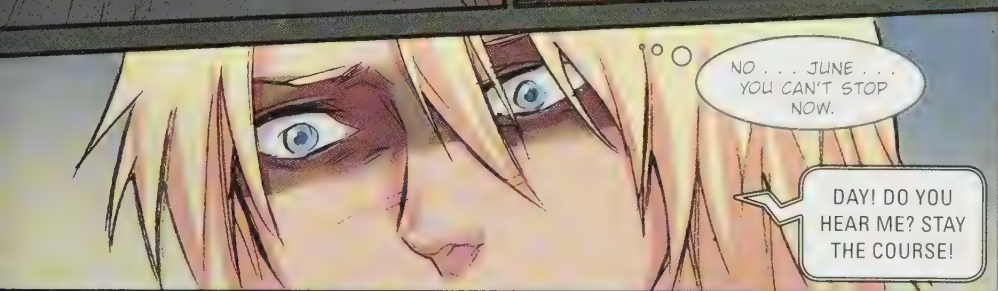


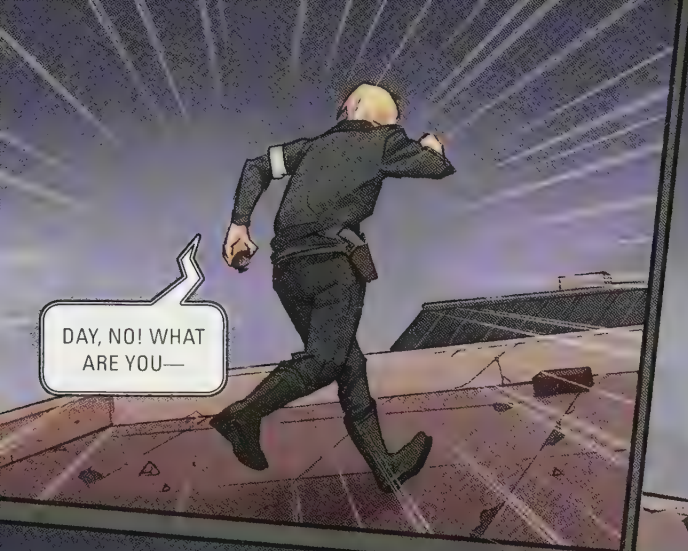
I KNOW SHE
DIDN'T JUST
FAINT.

SOMETHING'S
REALLY OFF.

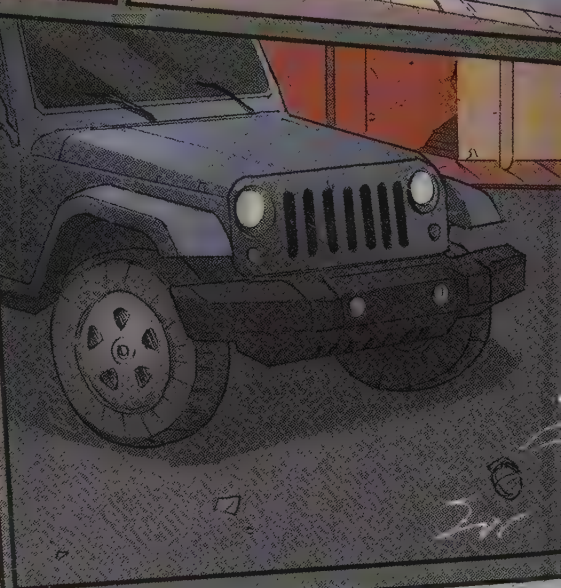


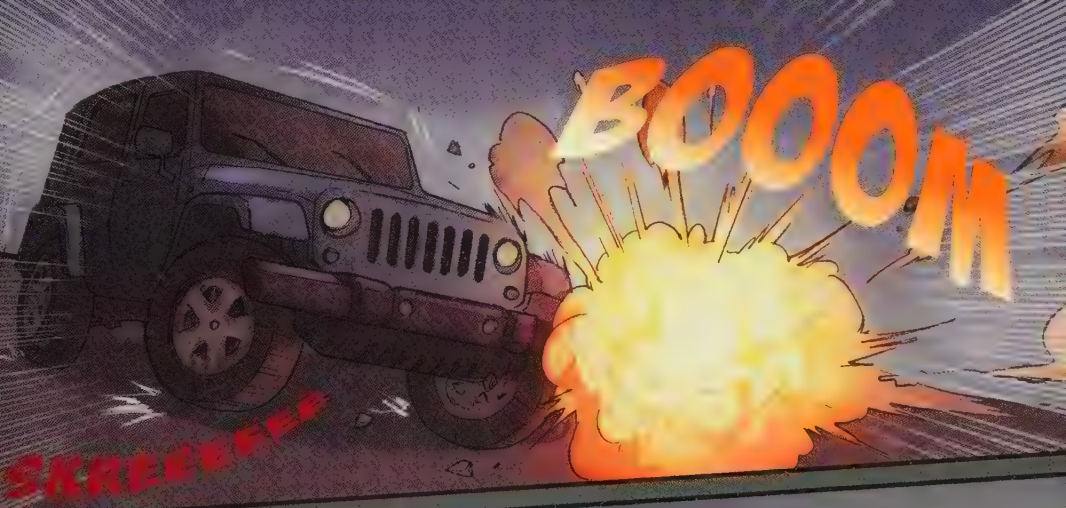


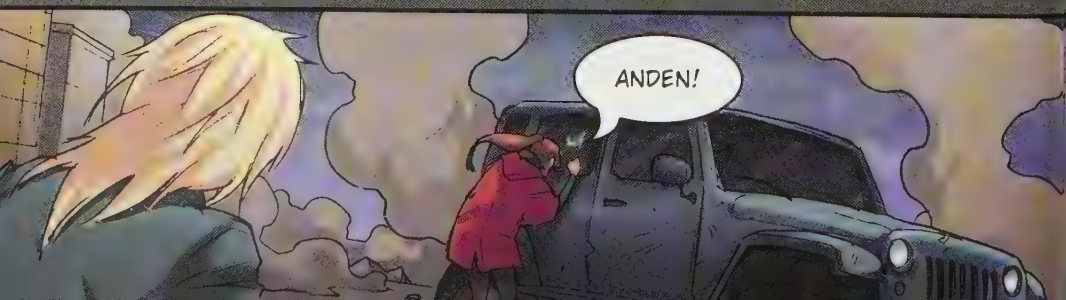
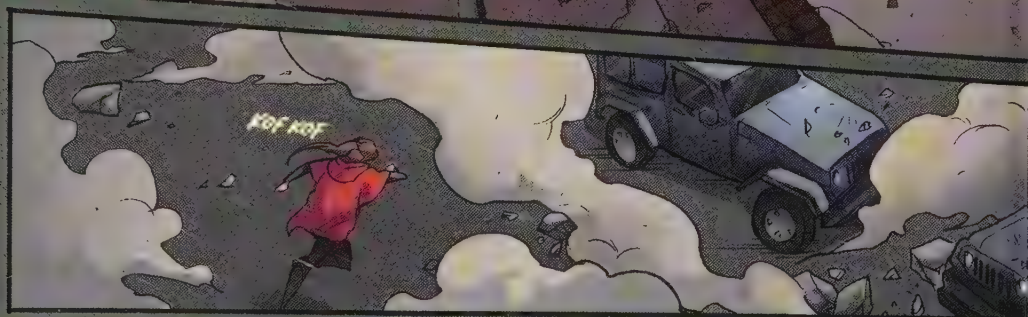
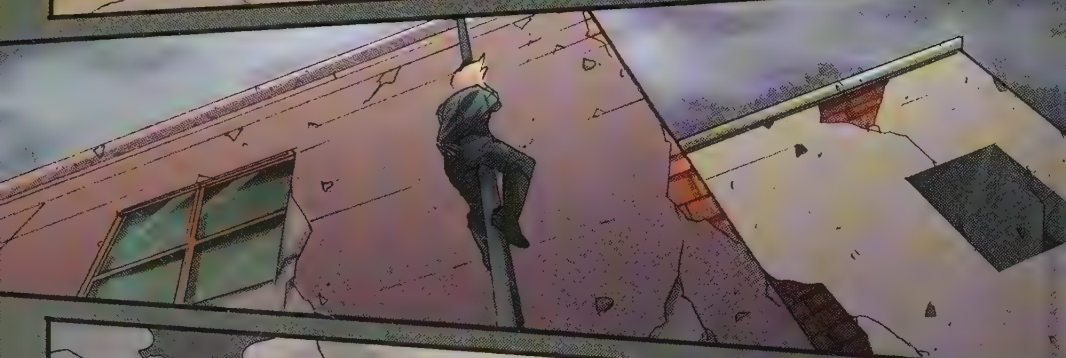
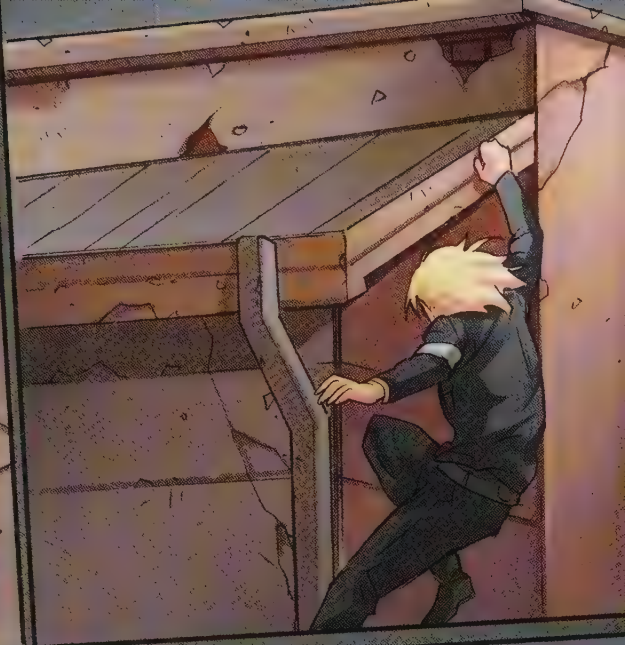


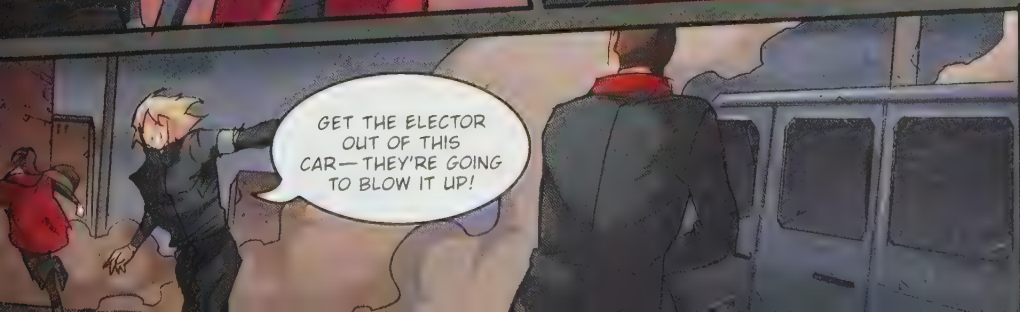
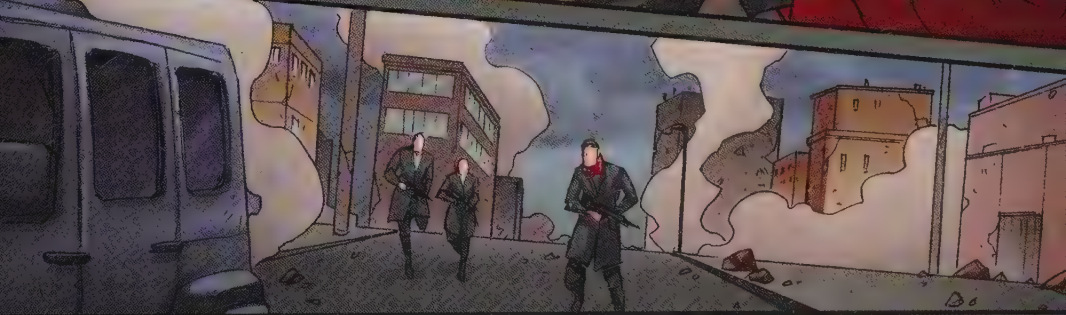
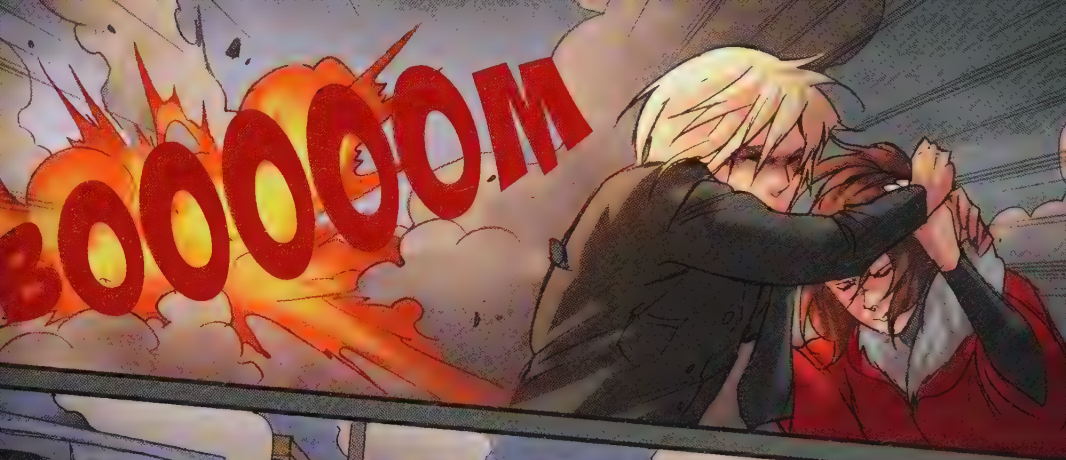


DAY, NO! WHAT
ARE YOU—





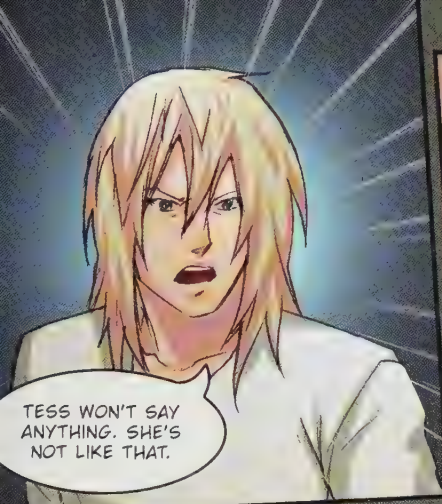








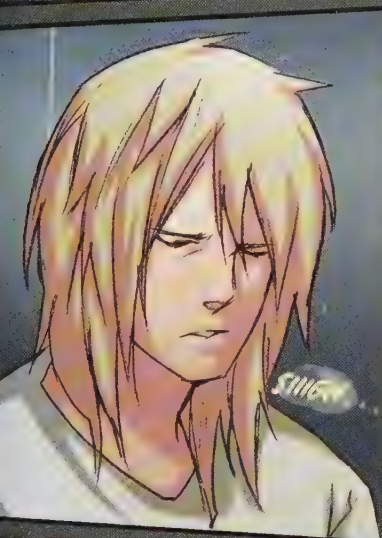




TESS WON'T SAY ANYTHING. SHE'S NOT LIKE THAT.



YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M SORRY.



I PUT YOU IN A TOUGH SPOT.

I TRIED TO GET ANDEN TO TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.

WHY DID YOU SAVE HIM?



DAY, THE ELECTOR FREED YOUR BROTHER.



WHAT?



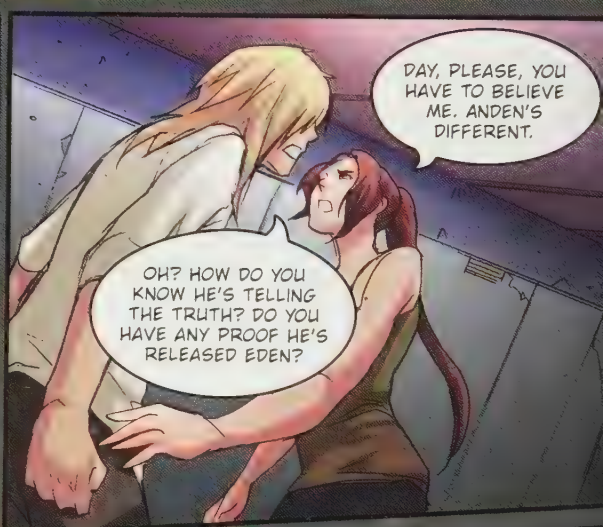
EDEN'S UNDER
FEDERAL
PROTECTION IN
DENVER.

ANDEN'S COMPLETELY
OPPOSED TO THE LATE
ELECTOR'S POLITICS. HE
WANTS TO MAKE A BUNCH
OF RADICAL CHANGES, BUT
HE NEEDS THE PUBLIC'S
SUPPORT FIRST. HE
PRACTICALLY BEGGED ME
FOR OUR HELP.



THAT'S
IT?

THAT'S WHY WE
BETRAYED THE
PATRIOTS? SO THE
ELECTOR CAN BRIBE
ME IN EXCHANGE FOR
MY SUPPORT?



DAY, PLEASE, YOU
HAVE TO BELIEVE
ME. ANDEN'S
DIFFERENT.

OH? HOW DO YOU
KNOW HE'S TELLING
THE TRUTH? DO YOU
HAVE ANY PROOF HE'S
RELEASED EDEN?



NO. I
DON'T.



HE PLAYED
YOU. YOU, OF
ALL PEOPLE.

THE LAST THING THIS
COUNTRY NEEDS IS A NEW
ELECTOR. THE REPUBLIC
IS BROKEN. KILL ANDEN.
LET THE COLONIES TAKE
OVER.



THAT
WON'T FIX
THINGS!

AFTER EVERYTHING THIS
GOVERNMENT'S DONE TO
YOU, EVERYTHING THEY'VE
TAKEN FROM YOU— HOW CAN YOU
NOT WANT TO SEE THE
REPUBLIC COLLAPSE?



I WANT TO SEE
IT CHANGE FOR
THE BETTER!

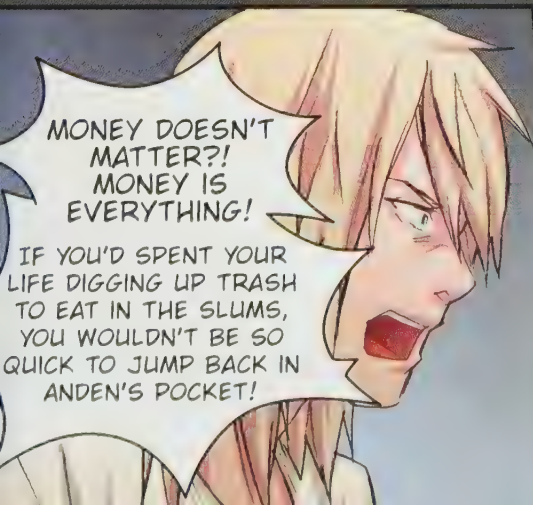


HAH!

SO NOW YOU THINK
THIS GODDY RICH
BOY CAN SAVE US
ALL?

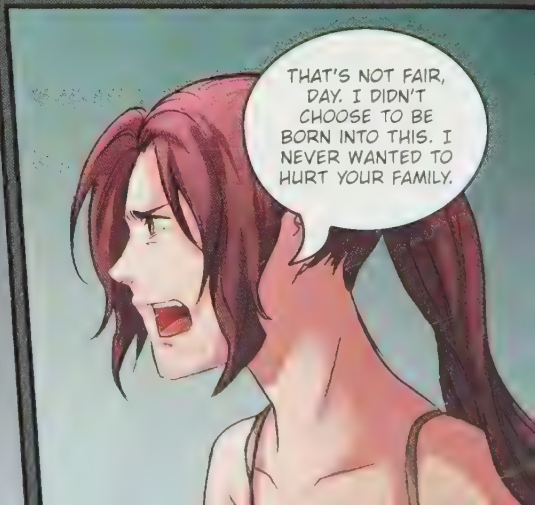


IT'S HIS IDEAS
THAT MATTER, NOT
HIS MONEY! MONEY
DOESN'T MEAN
ANYTHING WHEN—

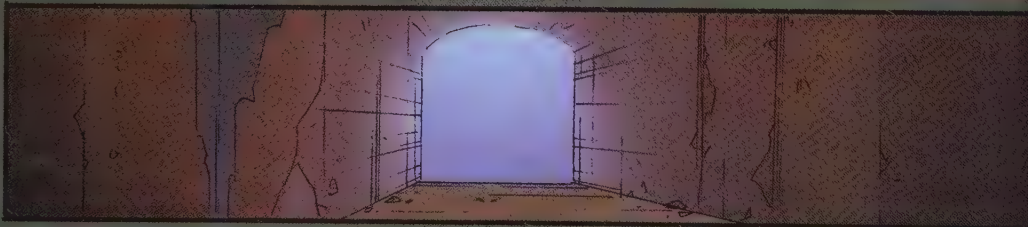
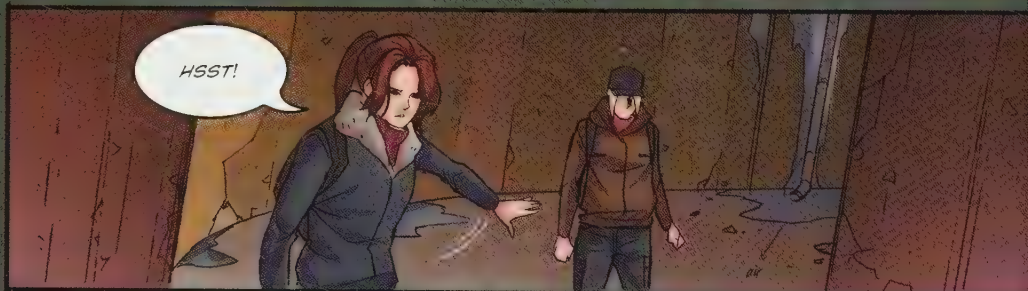


MONEY DOESN'T
MATTER?!
MONEY IS
EVERYTHING!

IF YOU'D SPENT YOUR
LIFE DIGGING UP TRASH
TO EAT IN THE SLUMS,
YOU WOULDN'T BE SO
QUICK TO JUMP BACK IN
ANDEN'S POCKET!



THAT'S NOT FAIR,
DAY. I DIDN'T
CHOOSE TO BE
BORN INTO THIS. I
NEVER WANTED TO
HURT YOUR FAMILY.





WE MUST BE IN
THE COLONIES.







DESCON!



YOU MUST BE NEW.



I'M SPONSORED BY CLOUD CORP. STOP IN TRIBUNE CENTRAL SQUARE TO BUY OUR NEWEST LINE OF BREAD!



YEAH.

TH-THERE'S SOMETHING OFF ABOUT THIS CITY.





PLEASE, SHE'S
BURNING UP WITH
FEVER. TAKE US TO
A HOSPITAL AND I'LL
TELL YOU ANYTHING
YOU WANT.



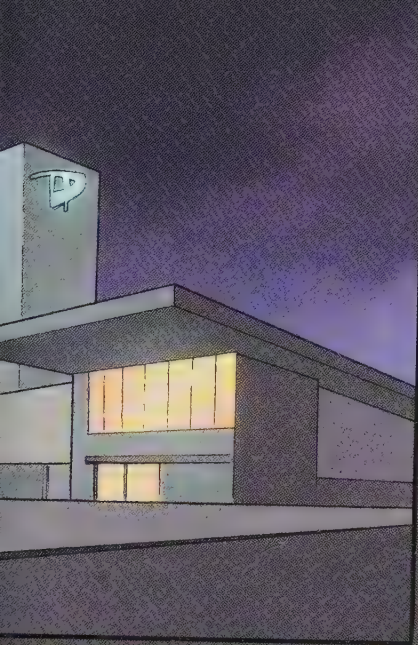
HOSPITAL'S
GOING TO
COST YOU,
SON.



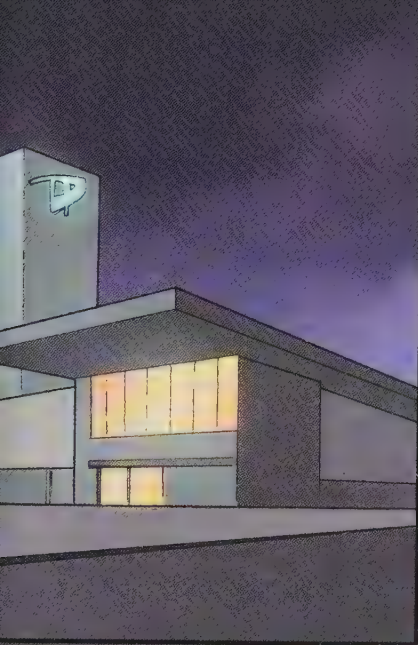
—FROM THE
REPUBLIC! I
RECOGNIZE HIM!

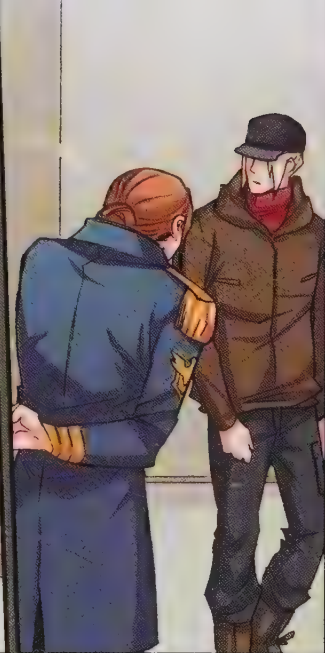


YOU'RE DAY.
AREN'T YOU?











YOU'RE DANIEL ALTAN WING, RIGHT? EVERGREEN ENT KEEPS PRINTING STORIES ABOUT YOU IN ITS TABS— THE REPUBLIC REBEL, THE PHANTOM, THE WILD CARD!

THEY SAID YOU ESCAPED LOS ANGELES PRISON ALL BY YOURSELF! HEY, DID YOU REALLY DATE THAT SINGER, LINCOLN?



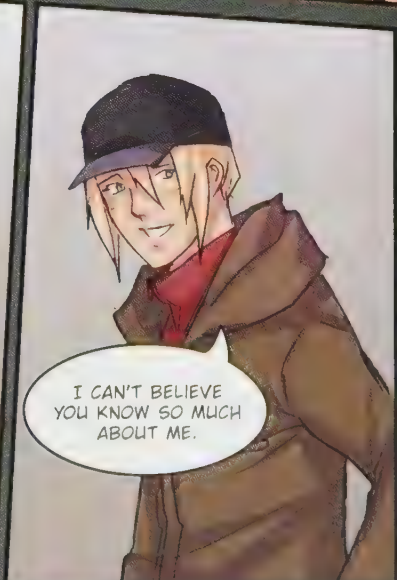
AHAHAHAHAHA!!!



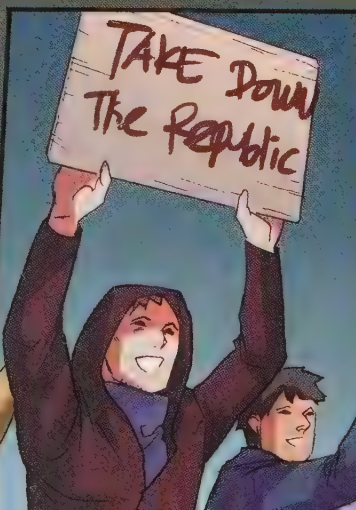
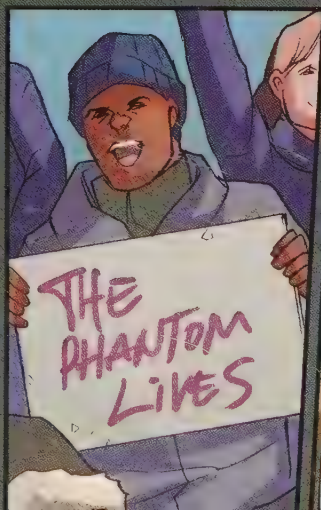
OH, AHAHA, I'M SORRY, YOU GUYS KEEP UP ON REPUBLIC PROPAGANDA SINGERS?

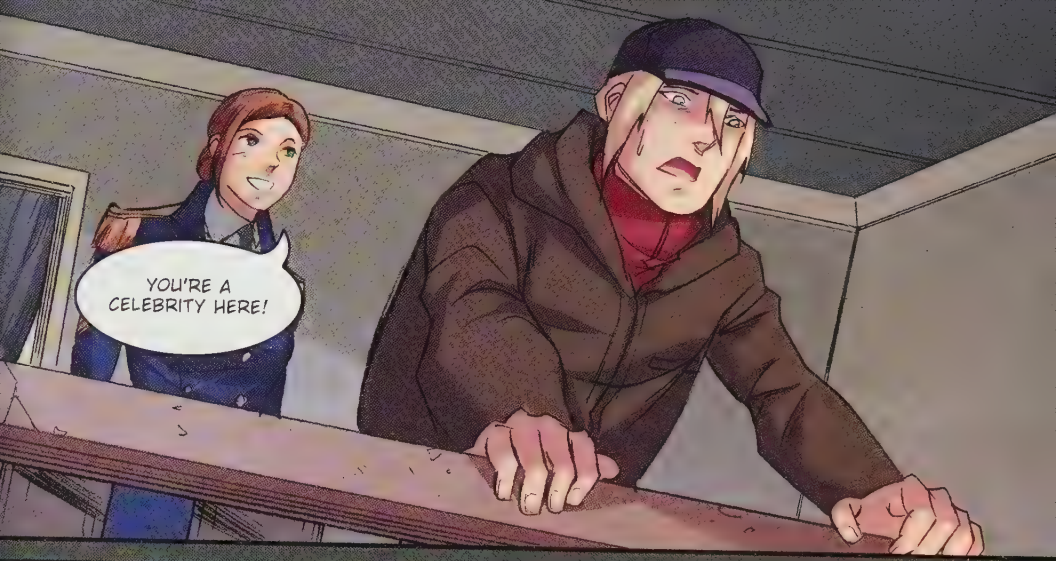
LINCOLN'S A LITTLE OLD FOR ME, DON'T YOU THINK?

HEH!



I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME.



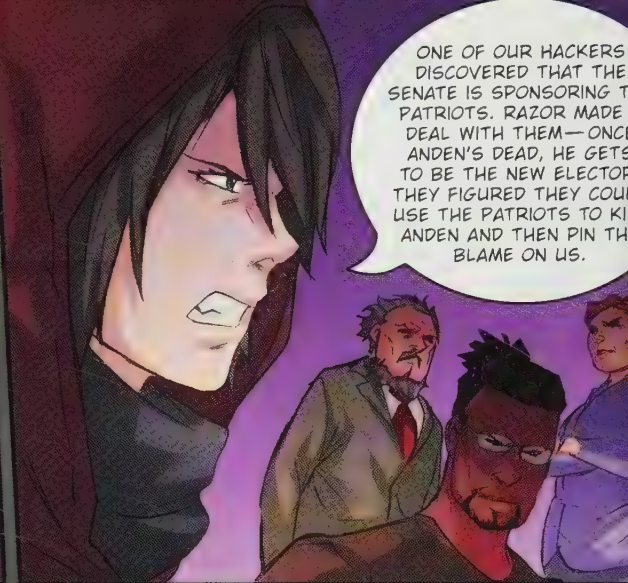




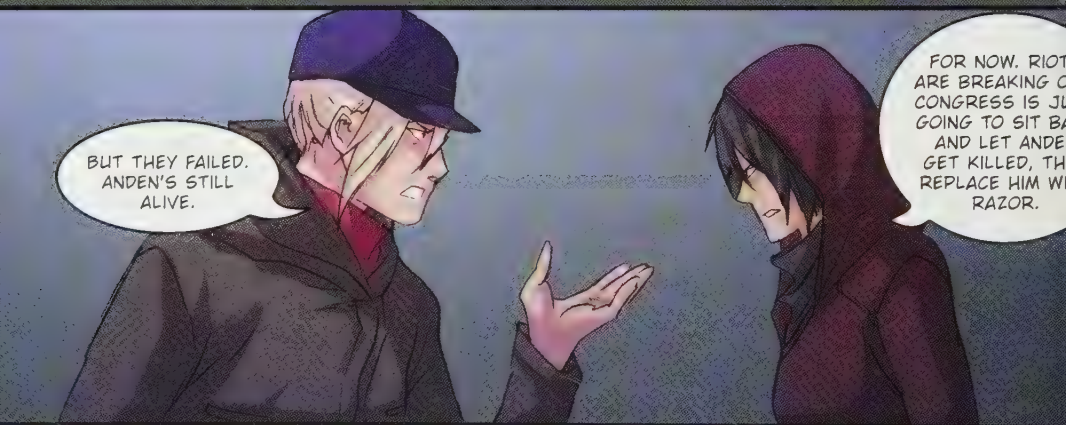




DON'T WORRY—OUR
TESS GOT AWAY.
SO DID PASCAO AND
BAXTER.



ONE OF OUR HACKERS
DISCOVERED THAT THE
SENATE IS SPONSORING THE
PATRIOTS. RAZOR MADE
DEAL WITH THEM—ONCE
ANDEN'S DEAD, HE GETS
TO BE THE NEW ELECTOR.
THEY FIGURED THEY COULD
USE THE PATRIOTS TO KILL
ANDEN AND THEN PIN THE
BLAME ON US.



BUT THEY FAILED.
ANDEN'S STILL
ALIVE.

FOR NOW, RIOTS
ARE BREAKING OUT.
CONGRESS IS JUST
GOING TO SIT BACK
AND LET ANDEN
GET KILLED, THEN
REPLACE HIM WITH
RAZOR.



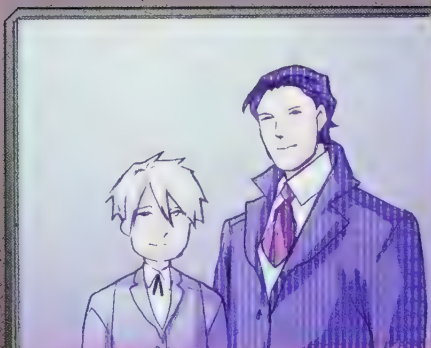
LET THE REPUBLIC GO
TO HELL! THE COLONIES'LL
PROBABLY TAKE OVER.



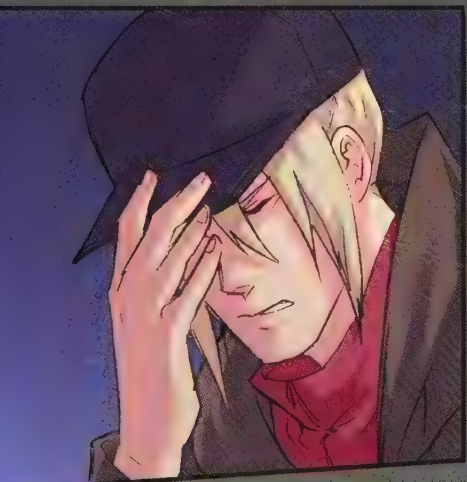
DO YOU REALLY THINK
THINGS WILL BE MUCH
BETTER IF THAT HAPPENS?
I GREW UP HERE. NO
ONE DOES ANYTHING FOR
ANYONE UNLESS THEY'VE
GOT MONEY OR CAN MAKE
MONEY FOR SOMEONE.
THEY'RE ONLY HELPING YOU
AND JUNE BECAUSE YOU'RE
FAMOUS AND THEY THINK
THEY CAN USE YOU.



ELECTOR FREES YOUNGER BROTHER OF NOTORIOUS REBEL "DAY"

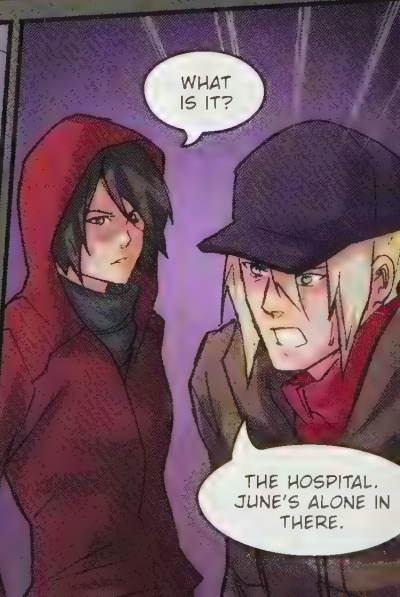


HE RELEASED ALL OF
THE KIDS BEING SENT
TO THE WARFRONT,
NOT JUST EDEN.



THE SPEAKERS AT THE
CAPITOL TOWER, THE ONES
THE PATRIOT HACKERS
REWIRE—ARE THEY
STILL HOOKED UP TO THE
JUMBOTRONS?

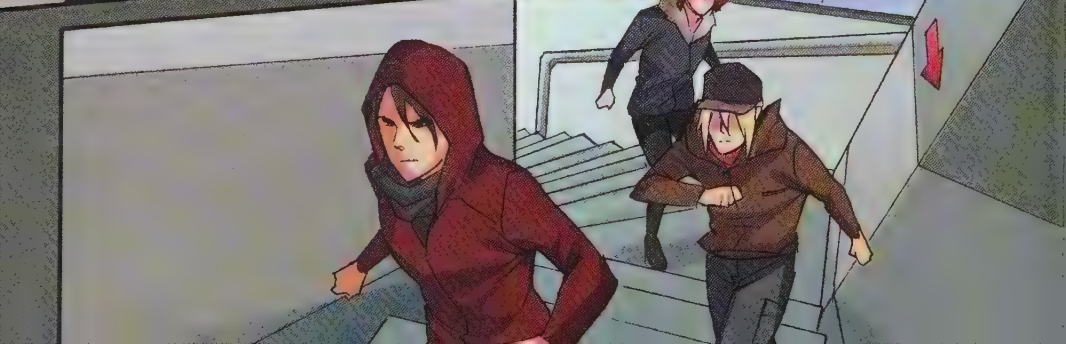
YEAH. THEY
ARE.

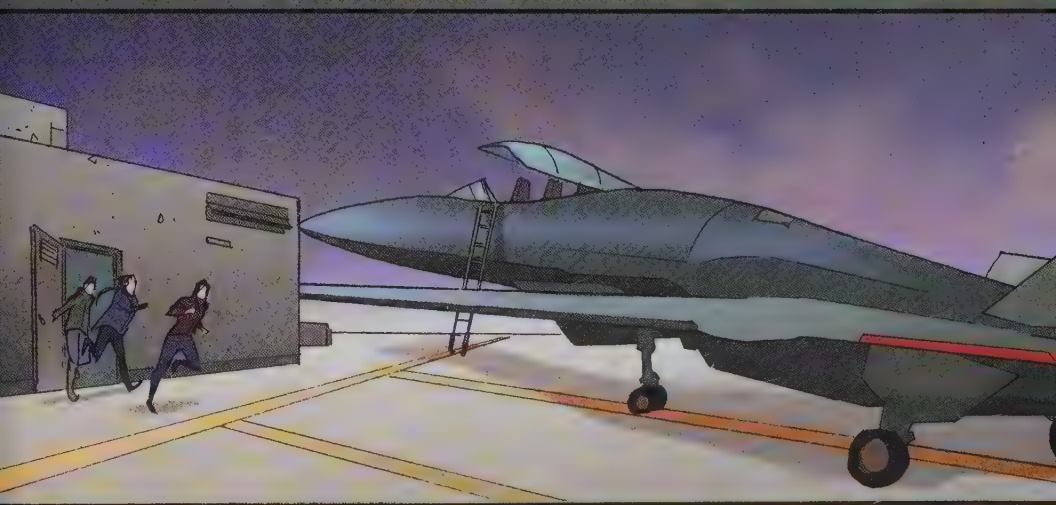


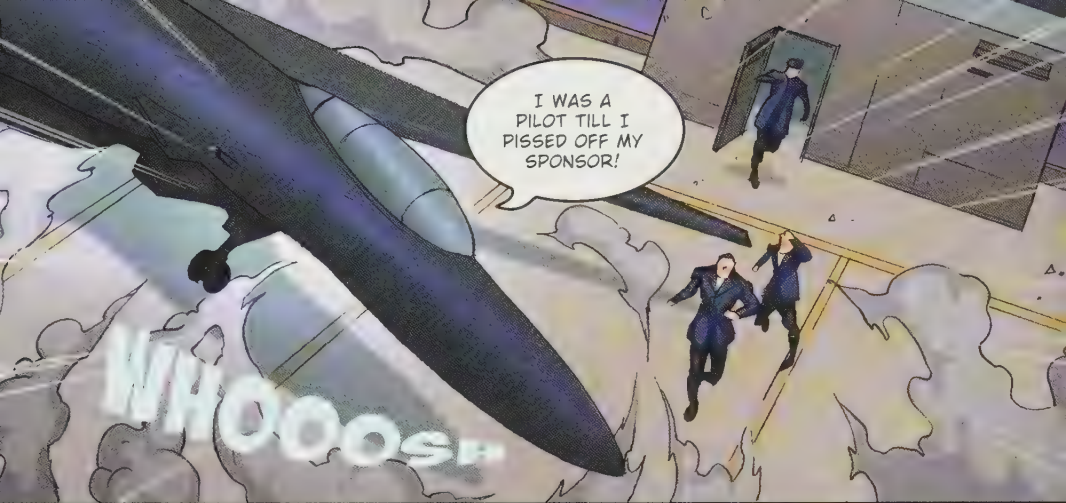
WHAT
IS IT?

THE HOSPITAL.
JUNE'S ALONE IN
THERE.









YOU'D BETTER BUCKLE UP BACK THERE! I'M GONNA PUSH THIS THING TO THE MAX! WE'LL BE BACK IN REPUBLIC AIRSPACE IN A FEW MINUTES!

WE STILL HEADING FOR DENVER?

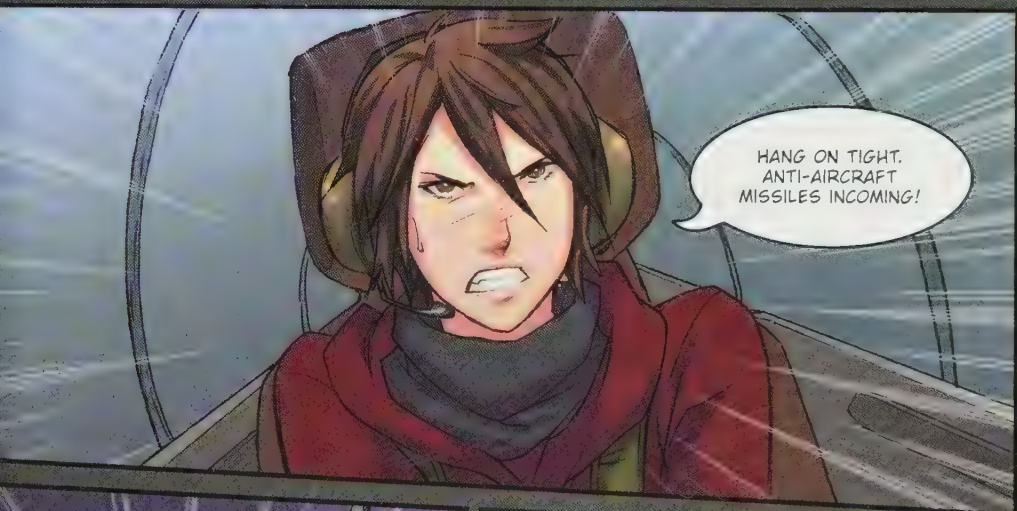
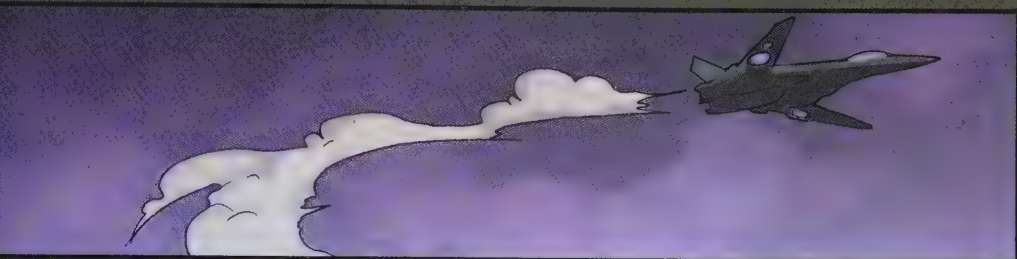


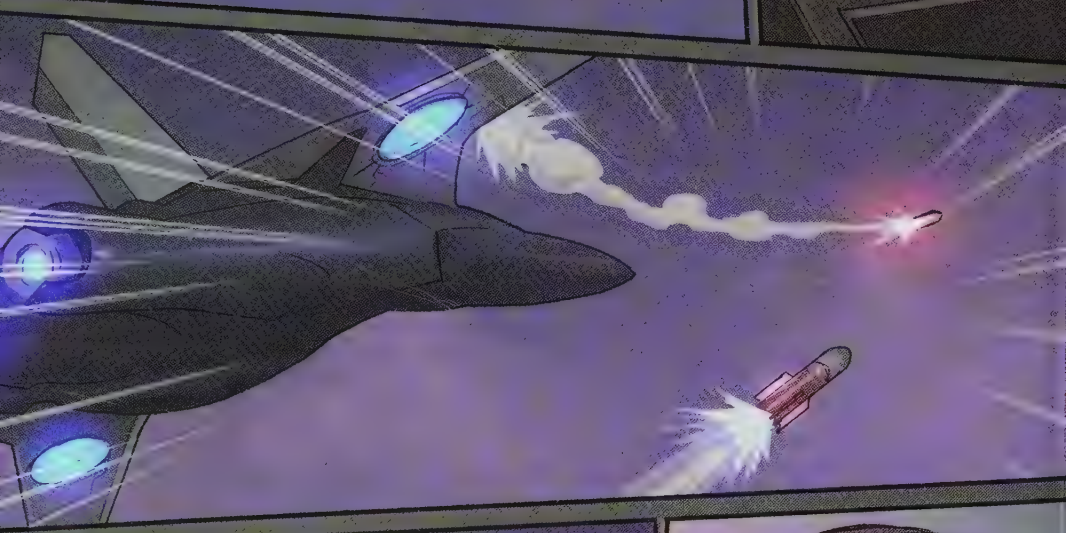
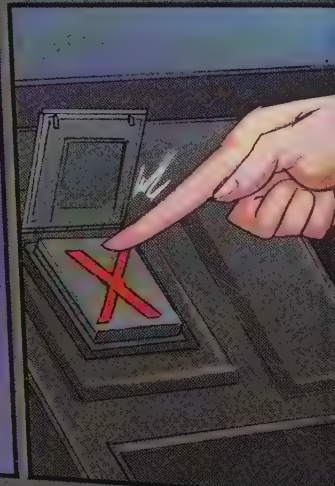
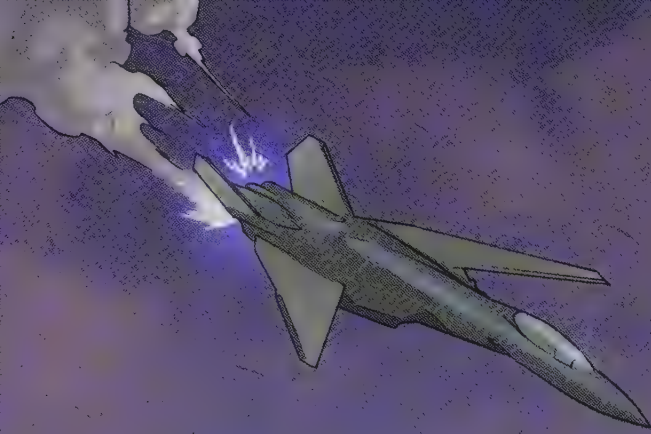
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON?

WE'RE HEADING FOR THE CAPITOL TOWER.



I'M GOING TO ANNOUNCE MY SUPPORT OF ANDEN TO THE REPUBLIC.

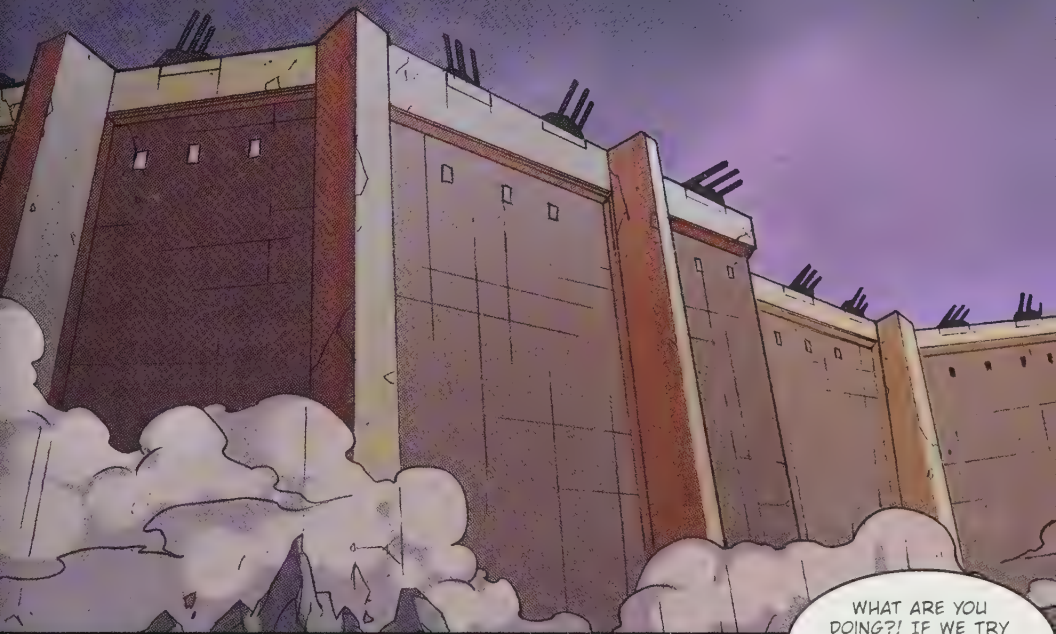




BWOOOOOOOM



DENVER, COMING
UP FAST! GET
READY!

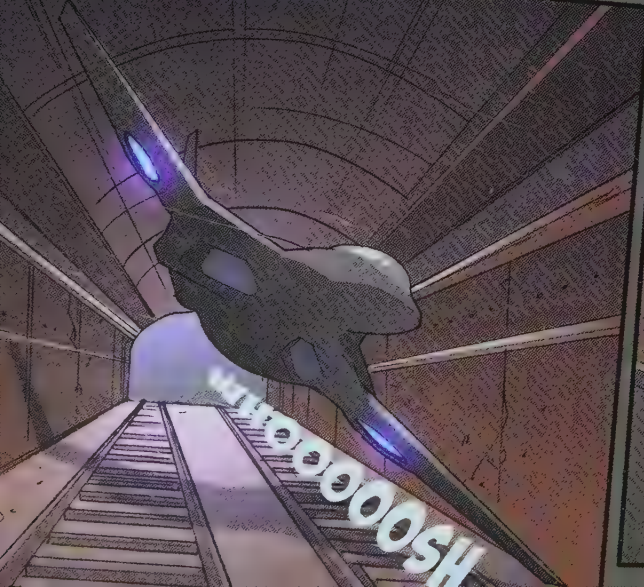
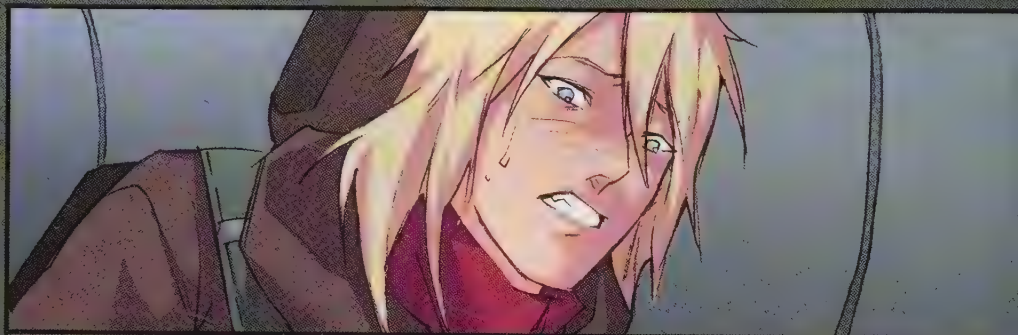


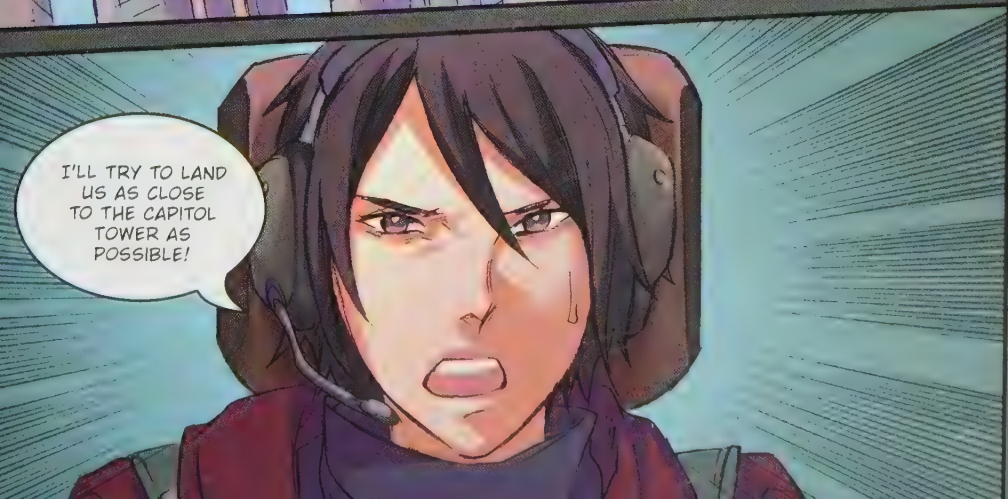
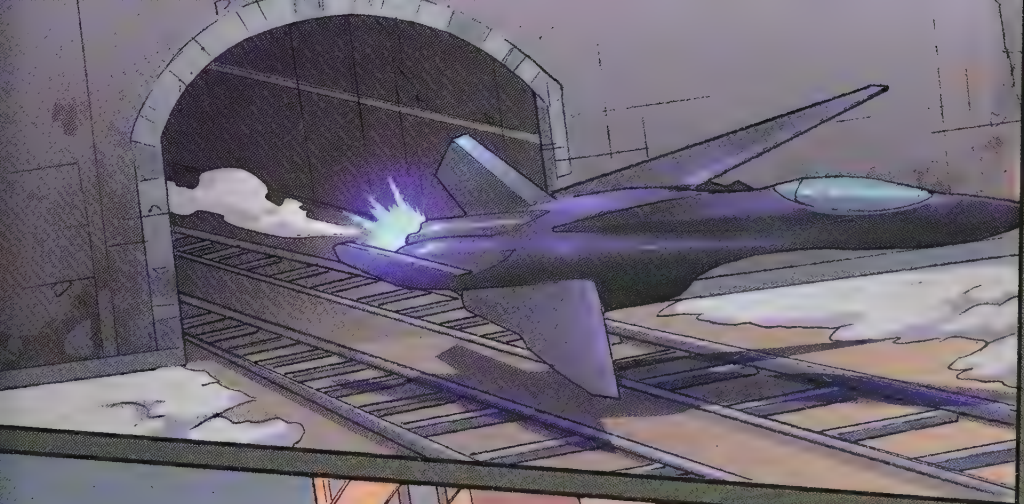
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?! IF WE TRY
TO GO OVER THE
ARMOR, THEY'LL
SHOOT US DOWN!



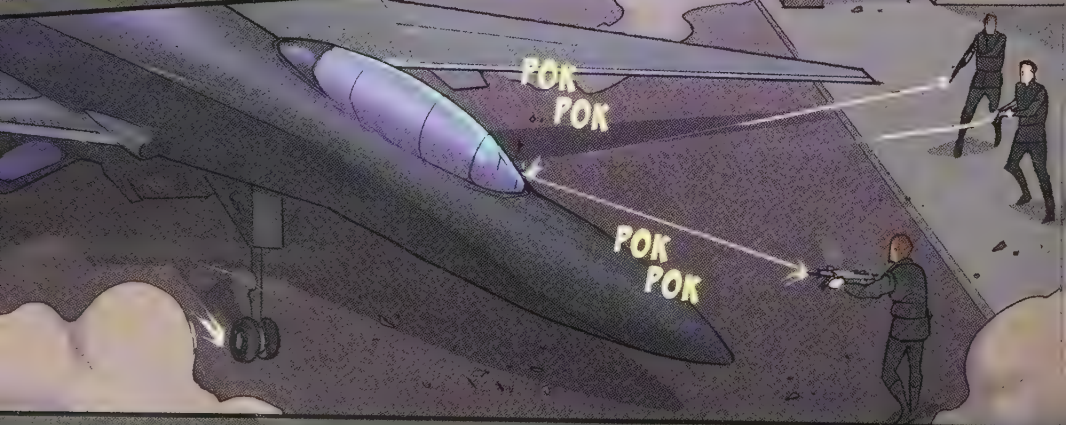
I KNOW WHAT
I'M DOING!







I'LL TRY TO LAND
US AS CLOSE
TO THE CAPITOL
TOWER AS
POSSIBLE!







PANT PANT!

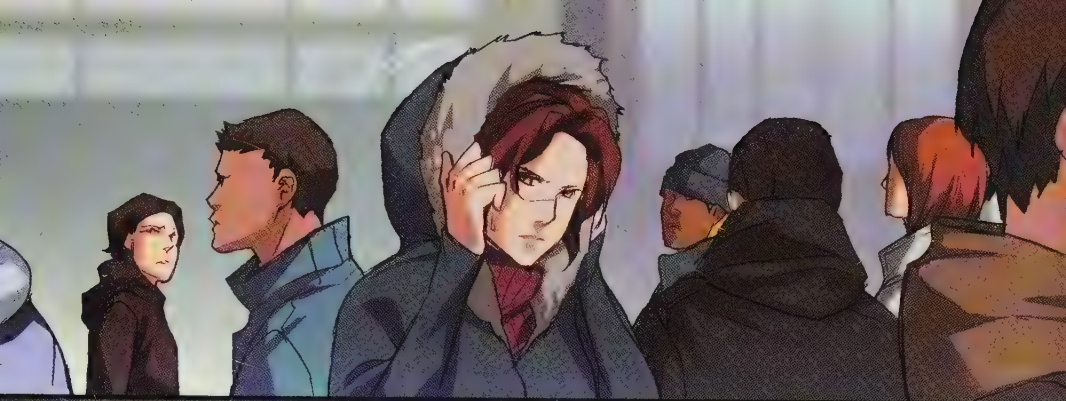
Y-YOU NEED TO GO
AHEAD!

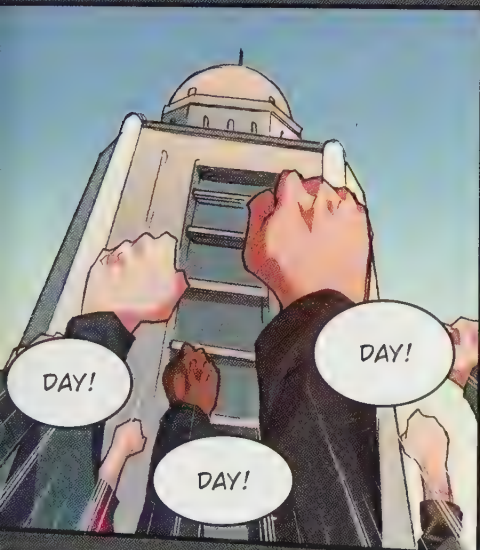
WHAT?! YOU'RE
CRACKED! THE CAPITOL
TOWER'S ONLY A
BLOCK AWAY!

NO! WE'VE ONLY
GOT ONE CHANCE!
WE'LL NEVER MAKE
IT IF I'M SLOWING
US DOWN.

GO! I'LL HIDE IN
THE CROWD!

STAY
SAFE!





DAY!

DAY!

DAY!



PEOPLE OF THE
REPUBLIC! MY
NAME IS DAY!

LIKE YOU, I'VE WATCHED MY
FRIENDS AND FAMILY DIE AT
THE HANDS OF REPUBLIC
SOLDIERS. EACH OF US HAS
RISKED OUR LIVES FOR THE
COUNTRY WE HOPE ONE DAY
TO HAVE!



THE NEW ELECTOR IS NOT
YOUR ENEMY. ANDEN WANTS
TO END THE TRIALS AND HELP
YOUR FAMILIES!



HE WILL FIGHT FOR YOU
IF YOU GIVE HIM THE
CHANCE! I CAME HERE
TONIGHT FOR YOU AND
FOR HIM!



CONGRESS, I'M GIVING YOU AN ULTIMATUM! YOU'VE ARRESTED A NUMBER OF PATRIOTS FOR A CRIME YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR. RELEASE THEM—ALL OF THEM—OR YOU'LL HAVE A REVOLUTION ON YOUR HANDS!



JUNE'S RIGHT. I DON'T WANT TO SEE THE REPUBLIC COLLAPSE.

DAY!

DAY!



I WANT TO SEE IT CHANGE.



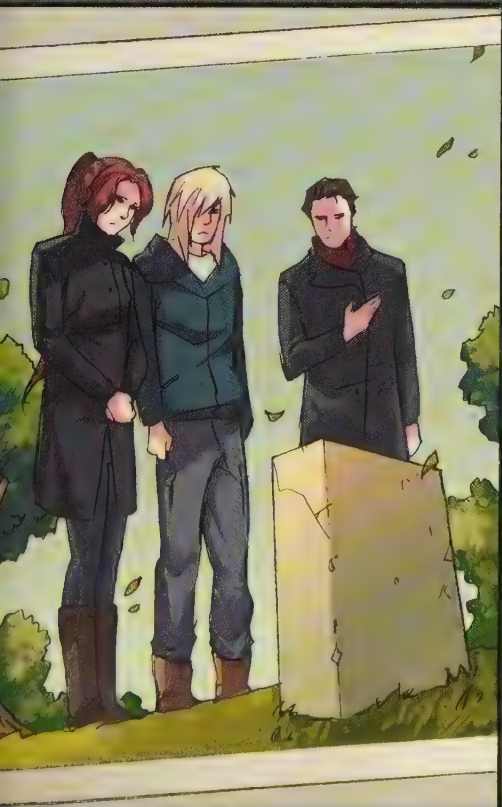
DANIEL ALTAN WING (DAY) & JUNE IPARIS

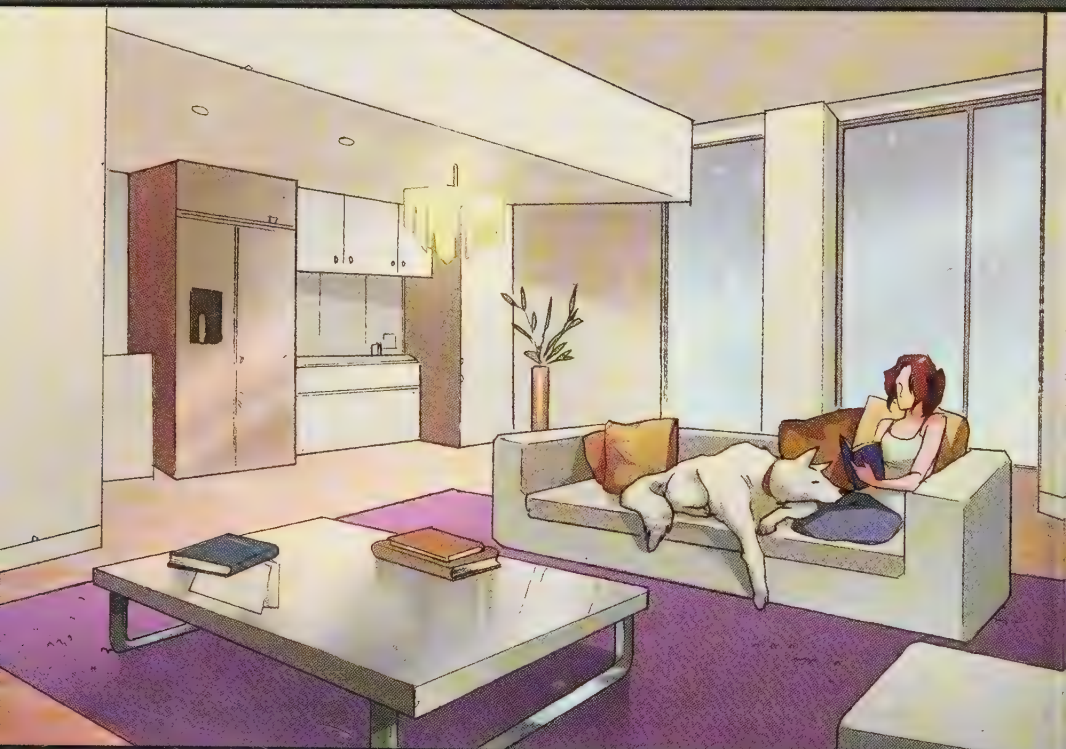
24/7 HOSPITAL FEED

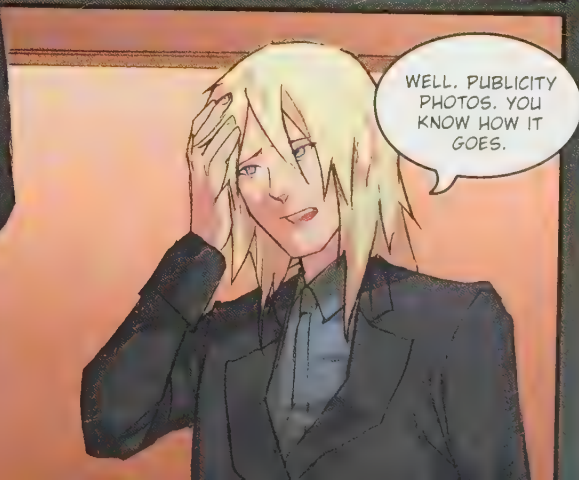
ELECTOR ANDEN ENSURES PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR PROUD REBELS













PLEASE I'LL
FOR YOU ON MY
WAY HOME



GASP!

RUBY'S YOUR
BIRTHSTONE
RIGHT?



THANK
YOU.

I STILL LIKE MY
PAPER CLIP RING
BEST

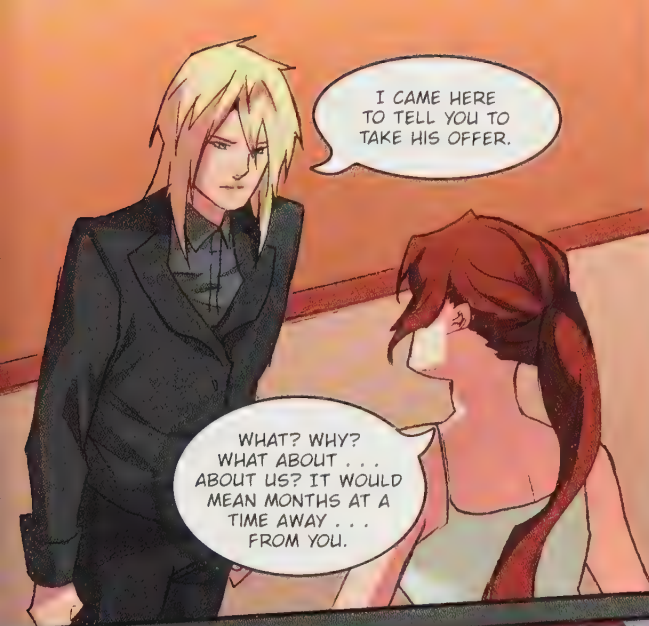


I WOULD
ASK YOU TO
MARRY ME
ANY DAY NOW



I HAVEN'T
DECIDED WHAT
TO TELL HIM.

IT'S NOT LIKE
IT'S A MARRIAGE
PROPOSAL OR
ANYTHING.



I CAME HERE
TO TELL YOU TO
TAKE HIS OFFER.

WHAT? WHY?
WHAT ABOUT . . .
ABOUT US? IT WOULD
MEAN MONTHS AT A
TIME AWAY . . .
FROM YOU.



I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT
IT A LOT AND . . . JUNE,
WE JUST WEREN'T
MEANT TO BE. TOO
MANY THINGS HAVE
HAPPENED.

SIGH



HIS FAMILY, HE
MEANS. HE CAN'T
FORGIVE ME FOR THE
PART I PLAYED IN
KILLING THEM.

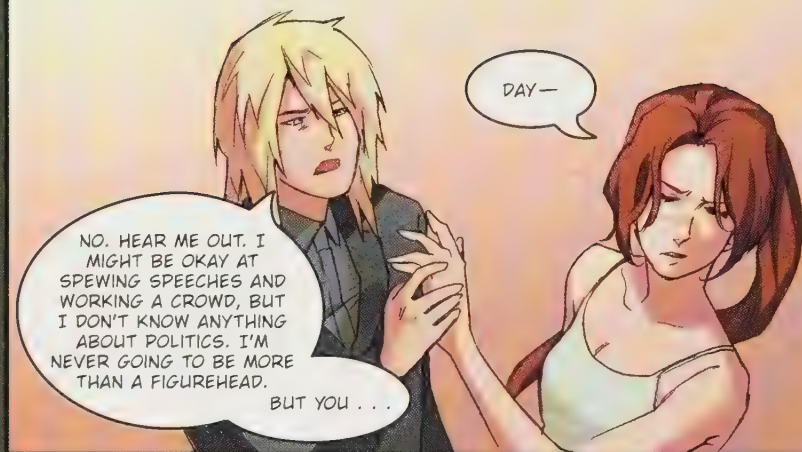


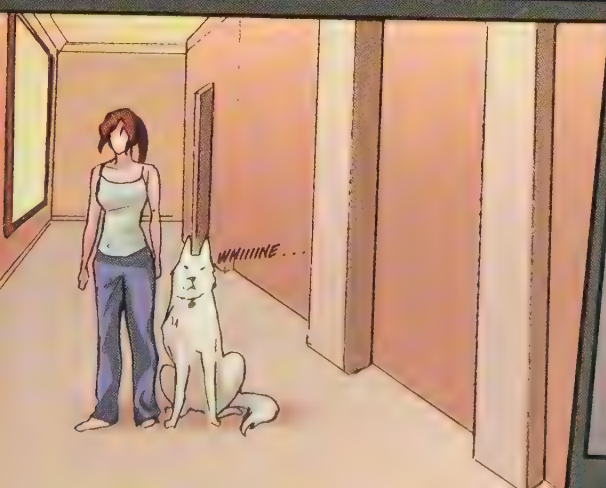
HOW COULD I BE SO
ARROGANT TO THINK
THAT A COUPLE GOOD
DEEDS COULD MAKE UP
FOR THAT?

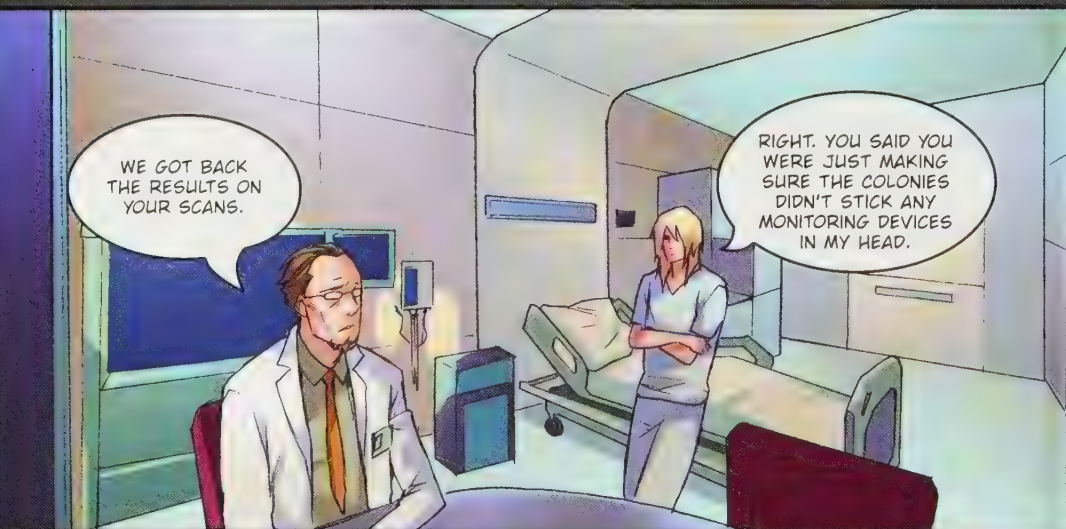
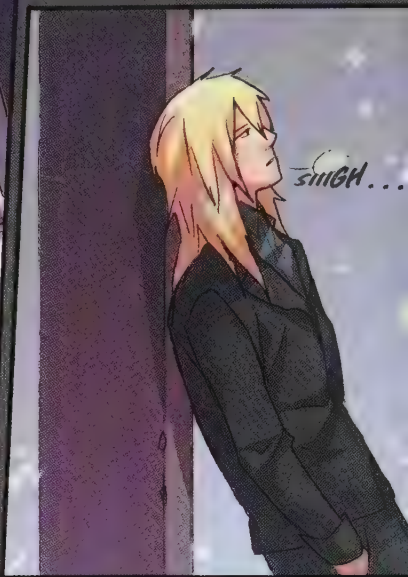
I NEED TO
LET HIM GO.
BUT I—



JUNE, LISTEN
TO ME. TAKE
THE JOB.



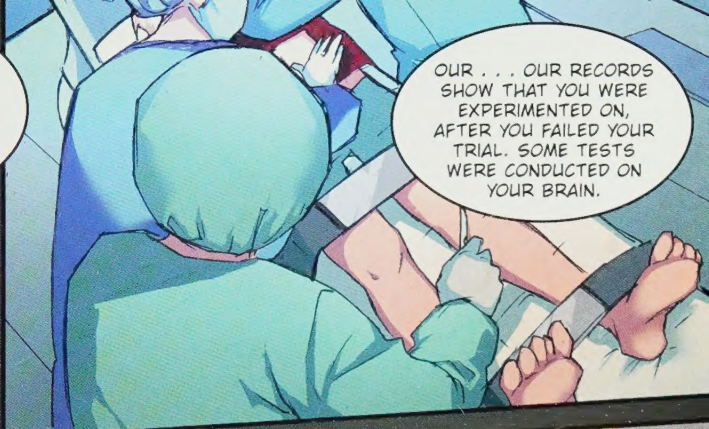




WE SAW THIS
NEAR YOUR LEFT
HIPPOCAMPUS. WE
THINK IT'S OLD,
AND THAT IT'S BEEN
WORSENING OVER
TIME.

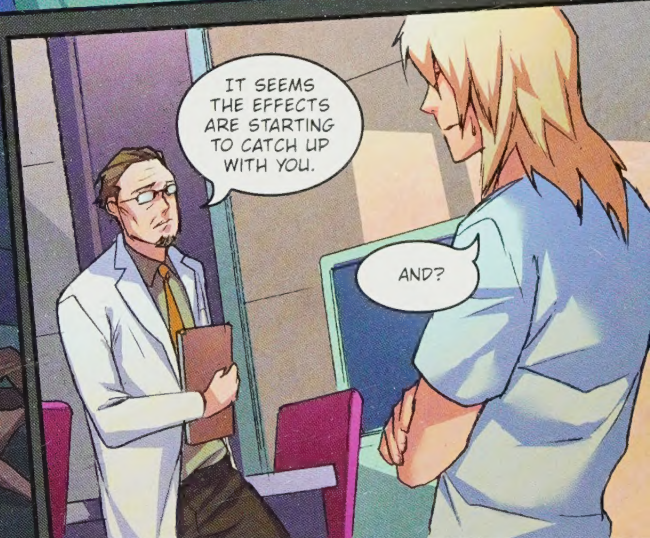


OUR . . . OUR RECORDS
SHOW THAT YOU WERE
EXPERIMENTED ON,
AFTER YOU FAILED YOUR
TRIAL. SOME TESTS
WERE CONDUCTED ON
YOUR BRAIN.

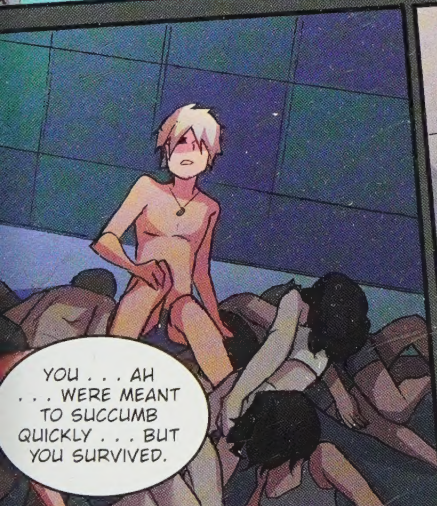


IT SEEMS
THE EFFECTS
ARE STARTING
TO CATCH UP
WITH YOU.

AND?

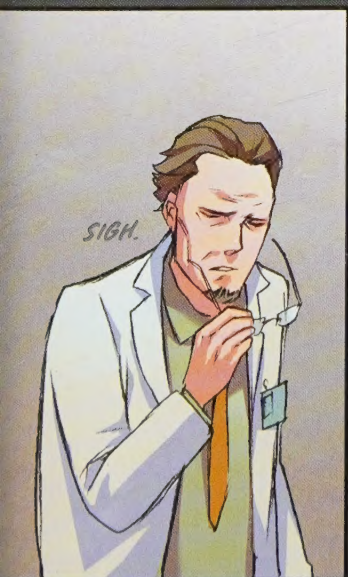


YOU . . . AH
. . . WERE MEANT
TO SUCCUMB
QUICKLY . . . BUT
YOU SURVIVED.



SIGH.

IT MEANS,
DAY, THAT
YOU'RE DYING.





MARIE LU was first inspired to write *Legend* while watching *Les Misérables* one afternoon and wondering how the relationship between a famous criminal and a prodigious detective might translate into a more modern story. She graduated from the University of Southern California in 2006 and lives in Los Angeles, California, where she spends her time stuck in traffic. You can visit Marie at www.marielu.org or on Twitter @Marie_Lu.

WWW.LEGENDTHESERIES.COM

LEIGH DRAGOON lives in Northern California. Her credits include work on the *Fraggle Rock* comics, the *Faerie Path* manga, and the *Timeline* series. She also wrote graphic-novel adaptations for the bestselling *Vampire Academy* series, several novels based on *Adventure Time*, and an upcoming adaptation of *Little Women*.

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KAARI loves manga, music, and games, and that's the reason why she decided to become an illustrator at Caravan Studio. In her young age, she has been working on various comic and game projects, such as *Dungeons & Dragons* concept art, *Argyre*, and *Windy Hollows* and *Hyper Fusion Cyborg Idol Rinka* comic series.

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AFTER ESCAPING FROM THE REPUBLIC'S
STRONGHOLD OF LOS ANGELES, JUNE
AND DAY LEARN THAT FREEDOM COMES
AT A COST AS THEY ARE OFFERED A
DEAL BY THE PATRIOT REBELS.

IN EXCHANGE FOR SAFE PASSAGE TO THE
COLONIES AND HELP WITH RESCUING DAY'S
BROTHER, JUNE AND DAY ARE PRESENTED WITH
A MISSION THAT NOT ONLY HAS THE CHANCE TO
ALTER THE COURSE OF THE REVOLUTION BUT
COULD CHANGE THE TWO OF THEM FOREVER.

AS JUNE WEIGHS THE CONSEQUENCES OF
THE REQUEST, SHE BEGINS TO WONDER IF THE
PATRIOTS MIGHT BE WRONG. PERHAPS THE
REVOLUTION SHOULD BE ABOUT MORE THAN
LOSS, VENGEANCE, ANGER, AND BLOOD.

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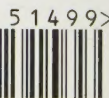
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